

Resolution on the ILO Revision

The indigenous peoples preparatory meeting expresses grave concern to the Working Group on Indigenous Population regarding the revision of Convention 107 of the International Labor Organization.

Having examined the publication entitled, Partial revision of Indigenous and Tribal Populations Conventions, 1957, the meeting unanimously concluded that the proposed revision is grossly inadequate and, in certain respects, threatening to the progressive elaboration and recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples. The meeting is particularly concerned about the following issues:

1. A number of the proposed articles are inconsistent with the exercise of the right to self-determination by indigenous peoples;
2. Although the term "integration" will be removed from the Convention, the instrument will continue to permit government integration programs;
3. Territorial and other rights to land and resources are inadequately recognized and protected. The convention will continue to permit the unconsented dispossession of indigenous peoples from their land;
4. The ILO does not offer indigenous peoples reasonable opportunities for effective consultation, participation and negotiation in the revision process, and for monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

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Therefore;

The indigenous peoples preparatory meeting urgently requests the Working Group,

1. To include on its agenda at this session a thorough discussion of the ILO process for the revision of Convention 107, and to include this matter on its agenda for the Sixth Session in 1988;
2. To include in its report of this Session a detailed summary of the concerns expressed by the participants at this meeting;
3. To express its concerns to the Sub-Commission about the grave issues which have been raised in regard to the revision of Convention 107;
4. To recommend that the Sub-Commission request the Secretary-General to request from the Director-General of the ILO information regarding the revision of Convention 107 and the concerns expressed in relation thereto;
5. And further the indigenous peoples preparatory meeting recommends, That the Working Group ask the Sub-Commission to request the Secretary-General to convey to the Director-General of the ILO the suggestion of the indigenous peoples that the Governing Body defer the revision process in order to allow a revision of ILO procedures to secure full participation of the indigenous peoples in the revision of Convention 107.