

**Human Rights Council**

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**5. Session 9 July, 2012**

**Item 3 - World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

**Intervention by the Danish delegation**

Mr. Chairperson,

Distinguished Members of the Expert Mechanism, Representatives of Indigenous Peoples and organizations and State Delegates.

On behalf of Denmark and Greenland, let me start by congratulating the new member of the Expert Mechanism and congratulate you, Mr. Chairperson, on your election.

In this brief statement, my delegation wishes to reiterate our support for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples to be held in 2014. We are pleased, in particular, with the strong focus on ensuring full and effective participation by indigenous peoples and recognition of Indigenous peoples' contributions to the process at all levels and at all stages.

We express our appreciation to Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN, Ambassador de Alba, and Mr. John Henriksen, the international representative of the Sami Parliament of Norway, for accepting the invitation by the President of the General Assembly to conduct inclusive informal consultations on his behalf, with a view to determining the modalities for the World Conference. We commend them for the successful consultation already conducted.

As co-hosts and co-sponsors of the Indigenous Peoples' Brainstorming meeting on the World Conference in Copenhagen in January, we are pleased to note the swift and smooth establishment of the Indigenous Global Coordination Group and its accomplishments so far, in terms of organization, preparations for regional preparatory meetings, support to the co-facilitators in their consultation efforts, etc..

We are pleased to inform you that the Government of Greenland has been able to fund an Arctic/ICC member of the Global Coordinating Group as well as to contribute to the Arctic Regional Preparatory Meeting scheduled for 23-24 October in Nuuk, Greenland.

We believe the recommendations from the Permanent Forum for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples provide a valuable contribution to the overall preparations of the conference.

Finally, we look forward to deliberations on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples here at the 5th Session of the Expert Mechanism and to the detailed document of the Secretary General and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant entities "on the ways and means of promoting the participation at the United Nations of recognized indigenous peoples representatives on issues affecting them, given that they are not

always organized as Non-Governmental organizations". We understand that this important document is soon to be released.

Thank you for your attention.