

Agenda item 7: Proposals to be submitted to the
Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval

INTERVENTION OF AOTEAROA INDIGENOUS RIGHTS TRUST

READ BY TRACEY CASTRO WHARE

Good afternoon.

We have two recommendations for the EMRIP to consider.

First that the EMRIP undertake a study on Indigenous peoples' permanent sovereignty over natural resources, or self determination or access to justice. We note that calls for a report on self determination have been made before but given its significance for the relationship between States and Indigenous peoples, we believe a continual call for a report on this important right is critical and necessary.

Secondly, that the EMRIP include in its agenda for its 6th session the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and that a further interactive dialogue on the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also be included.

Lastly, we note that last year the EMRIP recommendation on a report theme was not adopted by the Human Rights Council and that States suggested another topic. This was a disappointing outcome. It undermines the mandate that the Human Rights Council has given to the EMRIP and shows a lack of respect by States for the deliberations and consensus reached between the expert members of the EMRIP. We do not want to see such a practice continue and urge States to support the recommendations issued by the EMRIP.

Thank you Mr/Madam Chair.