

Agenda item 6(e)

**The Draft Declaration on the Rights of indigenous peoples
Intervention of the Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust
Delivered by Teanau Tulono**

1. Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust notes the recent resolution of the Human Rights Council to adopt the amended text of the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as prepared by the Chair. We make the following three statements.
2. Firstly, our position has always been to support the original sub commission Declaration as the basis for a minimum set of human rights for Indigenous Peoples.
3. Secondly, Maori are still in the process of considering the text as adopted by the Human Rights Council. At this time some Maori have expressed concern with the content of this text.
4. Thirdly, we also wish to be clear that whilst we have concerns with the Human Rights Council's text, we do not support the position taken by the New Zealand government that the Declaration is potentially discriminatory; is inconsistent with international law and is unable to be implemented. The position of the New Zealand government is extremely disappointing and beyond understanding. As always, we urge the New Zealand government to engage with Maori in respectful and meaningful dialogue on this important matter.