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**UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Thirteenth Session, May 12—23, 2014
Global Indigenous Women's Caucus Statement Agenda Item 6 Discussion on the
High Level Plenary to be known as The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

Madame Chair, Members of the Permanent Forum, Sisters and Brothers, we, the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus, submit the following statement for your consideration:

Preamble

GIWC held a preparatory meeting to discuss the High Level Plenary Meeting to be known as The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (HLPW/WCIP) on March 28th–30th, 2013 in New York. The GIWC has taken a strong position on ensuring the Full and equal and effective participation of Indigenous Women, in the preparatory process as well as in the drafting of the Outcome Document of the HLPW/WCIP.

Concerned that the GIWC was not afforded a delegation to the preparatory meeting in Alta, Indigenous women worked through their regional delegations to ensure our voices were heard and included in the Alta Outcome Document. The GIWC fully supports the Alta Outcome Document and reiterates that nothing in the HLPW/WCIP process or its outcomes may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating any of the rights of Indigenous Peoples contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), or any of the other international standards which protect, defend and uphold the inherent economic, social, cultural, civil, political, educational and spiritual rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The GIWC stands on the principle that the provisions of the UNDRIP affirm the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples to participate fully in decision-making that affects us. This includes the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent as well as Full, Equal and Effective Participation. These provisions will continue to guide and frame our work for the process leading up to the HLPW/WCIP as well as any outcome document that may emerge from the HLPW/WCIP.

Representatives of the GIWC participated in the World Conference on Indigenous Women in Lima Peru and support the recommendations made by Indigenous Women from the 7 regions of the world.

Therefore:

The GIWC affirms that Indigenous women have knowledge, wisdom, and practical experience, which has sustained human societies over generations. We, as mothers, life givers, culture bearers, and economic providers, nurture the linkages across generations and are the active sources of continuity and positive change.

We the GIWC affirm the call for the HLPW/WCIP to prioritize the issues and concerns of Indigenous Women in all the themes, organizational arrangements, outcome documents, and to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous women, including elders and youth, as stated in the Lima Declaration.

Indigenous Women assert our right to self-determination, which encompasses the direct, full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples, including the vital role of Indigenous women, in all matters related to our human rights, political status, and well-being. We endorse the principle: "Nothing about us, without us", and further declare "Everything about us, with us."

Thank you Madame Chair