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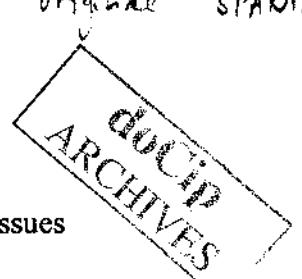
United Nations Third Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous
Issues

ON THE SUBJECT OF EDUCATION
Wednesday, May 13, 2004

By Jorge Gomez

Dear brothers and sisters, in support of the amendment to the Article 110 on the issue of education included in the 2003 report, we urge for a resolution the will create Indigenous universities in different countries. We, the Indigenous Peoples, have the right to a fair education and the right to a higher education that is not racist nor shames our cultures. In countries such as Bolivia, where the Indigenous are the majority, we keep the country economically and socially sound. We are not the horses that pull the carriage. We are told that we are unable to manage our own issues and societies, because we are not prepared to do so. Therefore, we should have our own universities, because higher education is not solely a right for those who are not Indigenous. Sufficient funds are available from the states and the NGOs. The Indigenous are not inferior racially or in any other way. Therefore what is the reason for us not to have our own universities?

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Estimados hermanos y hermanas, en apoyo y añadimiento al parrafo 110 en el tema de educación escrito en el reporte del 2003 apoyamos una resolucion que cree universidades indígenas en diferentes paises. Nosotros los pueblos indígenas tenemos el derecho a una educación equitativa y tenemos derecho a una educación universitaria que no sea racista ni nos averguenze de nuestras culturas. Si mantenemos a nuestros paises económicamente y socialmente sobre todo en paises donde los indígenas somos la mayoría como en el pais de Bolivia. Nosotros no somos animales de carga. Se nos dice que no podemos determinar nuestros propios asuntos y sociedades porque no estamos preparados, entonces deberíamos tener nuestras propias universidades porque la educación univeritaria no es solo el derecho de los que no son indígenas. El dinero suficiente esta disponible de los estados y las ONGs. El indígena tampoco es inferior racialmente ni en ninguna otra forma entonces cual es la razon de que no tengamos nuestras propias universidades.