e Permanent Forum,

Thank you Mr Chairman, Distinguished Members of the Permanent Forum, Ladies and Gentlemen

My Name is Rose Saddleback, my Cree spirit name is O PAM AS TO MO, Elected Council Member of the Samson Cree Nation in the Maskwacis Territory of Treaty 6.

First, Thank you to the United Nations for this recognition of Indigenous Women and girls. In support of the Indigenous Caucus Recommendation on Treaties, the Samson Cree Nation and the Maskwacis Cree women and girls want to remind this Third Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues that, for us, treaties and treaty rights are paramount.

Indigenous women and children, particularly girls have treaty rights. From Treaty No. 6, in our case, flow all of our rights. Again, we urge member states to respect and honour treaties according to their original spirit and intent.

To this day, in our treaty territory, there is a ceremony to transfer treaty information among the treaty keepers. It is the Cree women who are the treaty keepers at O'Chiese. We are, therefore most aware of ongoing treaty violations.

So on behalf of the Maskwacis Cree women and girls, I urge you to adopt the recommendation presented by the co-chairs of the Indigenous women's caucus.

Thank you.

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