

Statement by Jannie Lasimbang, EMRIP member on Agenda item 3

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

I am pleased to hear the positive developments and broad agreements at this point by delegates on the preparations for the WCIP. I also appreciate the presentation and the work of Mr John Henriksen.

I am concerned not to hear any statements from state delegations from Asia and Africa. I certainly hope that this does not mean lack of interest and commitment towards the WCIP. As mentioned by the delegate from Chile, to have a sense of belonging and ownership in the process of the WCIP is critical. I fully agree to this as it is the work and the implementation of the Outcome Document that follows the World Conference that is equally critical and would require commitment borne out belonging and ownership of the process.

In view of the limited time for the Consultations, I would like to urge state delegations from these two regions to contribute your views in the spirit of cooperation and goodwill, and to support and to be engaged at the regional preparatory meetings. In my view, the preparatory processes and the WCIP itself would be an important opportunity to deal with issues and share good practices relating to the indigenous peoples.

The expert mechanism is still open to hear from delegates from Asia and Africa this week and I would be happy to meet and have a dialogue with any of the delegations offering ideas on the process. I would also like to recommend that the co-facilitators take more efforts to meet with governments from Asia and African regions to get their views on the WCIP.

Thank you