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Agenda Item 4: Human Rights

Collective Statement of indigenous youth of the following organisations Land is Life, The Saartjie Baartman Indigenous Medicine Institute, The International Indian Treaty Council, International Association for Volunteer Efforts, Indigenous Dialogues Foundation, Women's League of Burma, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Hawaii Institute for Human Rights, Taino Nation of Antilles, Kamakakuolani Center for Hawaiian Studies, Ka Lahui Hawaii and Hui Ho'olu Incorporated.

MY NAME IS Skaya. I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE INDIGENOUS YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES, FROM THE COUTRIES OF CANADA, SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, TANZANIA, MALI, BURMA, USA , ASIA, and HAWAII.

WE RESECTFULLY PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION(S):

that the secretariat ensure more effective youth integration and participation to specifically address the violations of our human rights as youth in the Permanent Forum and Secretariat in future sessions of the Permanent Forum.

that an additional seat be added to the Permanent Forum to represent indigenous children and youth. We further request the Permanent Forum recommend that financial support for this new position be provided by UNICEF, the UN Development Fund or other agencies to be identified by the Permanent Forum.

We thank the Permanent Forum for it's recommendations from the 2003 Prepcom on Indigenous Children and Youth and support these recommendations be adhered to an implemented by all applicable UN bodies and representatives immediately. We also fully support the decision to continue the focus on youth and children in the future.

We request that the Permanent Forum urge states to adopt the current Draft Declaration of the Rights of Indignesous Peoples as a mechanism for basic human rights of Indigenous Peoples. We specifically request that these standards be applied to the issue of lands and self-determination. In a particular we request the Permanent Forum recommend to the OHCHR to urge the New Zealand government to guarantee all Maori property rights to ancestral lands and resources.

In 2003, the Forum noted the large numbers of incarcerated youth and requested ECOSOC urge nations to ensure greater protections and humane treatment of those children and youth. While we support this request, we also ask the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues to include incarcerated youth as part of the study on the administration of justice.

We strongly urge the Permanent Forum to recommend the OHCHR and ECOSOC, UNESCO and other applicable agencies to encourage and assist, create and fund state programs to establish culturally relevant education and wellness programs to prevent youth incarceration and rehabilitate youth, with special emphasis placed on young women in South Africa, Hawai'i and the North American states and provinces. We recommend Indigenous mothers must be able to remain connected with their children through the incarceration period to maintain the sharing of culture, wisdom and nurturing.

Additionally, we wish to reiterate the need for UN agencies including, but not limited to UNICEF and UNIFEM to fund and support the continuance and creation of programs which combat the sexual exploitation of Indigenous youth, especially those of indigenous girls.

In relation to human rights abuses we wish to highlight three human rights violations and ask the Permanent Forum to request the OHCHR to press the following:

the Burmese military cease forced relocation, forced labor, torture, killing and sexual violence against Indigenous Peoples especially women and girls.

we additionally request that the military withdraw their troops and end military occupation in Native Hawai'ian and Indigneous Burmese territories.

we urge the Permanent Forum to request that the UN Security council investigate and send peace keepers to protect the Maluku in Indonesia.

to acknowledge indigenous peoples right to have the choice to be recognized as sovereign nations, who have rights and the ability to control their resources, societies and form self governing bodies especially the, the Truku, Amis, Paiwan, Bunun, Atayal, Saisiyat, Tsou, Rukai, Puyuma, Yami, Thao, and Kavalan.