

**Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur James Anaya and
the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

HRC18, 20 September 2011

Thank you, Madame President.

On behalf of the Danish delegation, I would like to congratulate the Expert Mechanism and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on the excellent work they have carried out to date.

Together with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism have proven their ability to cooperate effectively in carrying out their respective mandates in a complementary manner. In this regard, Denmark is pleased to see that the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism exhibit constructive synergies in their choice of topics. They thereby further a coherent approach to challenges faced by indigenous peoples.

Madame President,

We thank the Expert Mechanism for its Final Report on Indigenous Peoples and the Right to Participate in Decision-Making and support the proposals laid out in the fourth session report. The proposals address several important issues, including indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making in relation to extractive industries.

Could the Expert Mechanism please elaborate on how it envisages its future work on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making, including with a specific focus on extractive industries, as proposed in its reports?

Turning to the Special Rapporteur, Denmark wishes to thank Professor Anaya for his impressive efforts to engage with and encourage cooperation and dialogue between states, indigenous peoples and other interested parties. Denmark would like to commend the Special Rapporteur for dedicating a substantial amount of time to meet with representatives of indigenous peoples. Denmark also encourages governments to extend invitations to the Special Rapporteur and to support him in carrying out his important mandate.

Professor Anaya's latest report on Extractive Industries Working Within or Near Indigenous Territories is of significant value to the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. Denmark fully supports the recommendations made in this report, including the development of guidelines aimed at promoting best practices with regard to cooperation between States, corporate actors and indigenous peoples.

Denmark would like to take this opportunity to ask the Special Rapporteur how he plans to undertake the development of such guidelines? We have noted with great interest the potential for cross-fertilisation with the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework developed by John Ruggie. How do you envisage that your work will further build on some of its findings regarding indigenous peoples?

We wish you all the best in carrying out your mandate.

Thank you.