

EMRIP 2018

Item 11: Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval

Collective statement of Aotearoa Independent Monitoring Mechanism, California Association of Tribal Governments, Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, International Indian Treaty Council, Inuit Circumpolar Council, National Congress of American Indians, Native American Rights Fund, Sami Parliament of Finland, Sami Parliament of Norway, Sami Parliament of Sweden, Sami Parliamentarian Council, Sami Council and Tlingt & Haida Indian Tribes.

Delivered by Heather Whiteman Runs Him

This is a collective statement of the Aotearoa Independent Monitoring Mechanism, the California Association of Tribal Governments, the Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, the International Indian Treaty Council, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, the National Congress of American Indians, the Native American Rights Fund, the Sami Parliament of Finland, the Sami Parliament of Norway, the Sami Parliament of Sweden, the Sami Parliamentarian Council, the Sami Council and Tlingt & Haida Indian Tribes.

We take note of General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/321, “Enhancing the participation of indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them”, which was adopted 8 September, 2017, and most notably Operative Paragraph 4, which specifically “[e]ncourages further efforts to facilitate the participation of indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, in accordance with their respective rules of procedure, inter alia, through the inclusion of indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in the modalities for relevant conferences, summits and other meetings convened by the United Nations on issues affecting them, in accordance with the relevant decisions established by the appropriate body or organization responsible for those meetings.”

In order to carry out the intent and spirit of this Resolution and to further implement Articles 3, 18, 41, and 42 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the UN Human Rights Council should establish modalities to provide for the effective and dignified participation by Indigenous Peoples’ Representatives and Institutions in the working methods and programmes of the Human Rights Council in accordance with its mandate.

Accordingly, we request that the EMRIP advise the Human Rights Council to commit at its 39th session in September 2018 to undertake a process, including through consultations with Indigenous Peoples, UN experts and member States, for the development of modalities to ensure the enhanced participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in its meetings, working methods, activities, and programmes.

In addition, the Human Rights Council should consider holding an interactive dialogue at its 2019 September session on this issue.

We underline the importance of ensuring the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples from all global indigenous regions, with the necessary commitment of financial and technical assistance to enable our participation in this process.

Thank you Mr/Madame Chair.