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**UNITED NATIONS**

**PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES**

**THRID SESSION**

**NEW YORK,**

**Tuesday, 18 May 2004**

**Agenda 4(b) Environment**

**Intervention by**

**Haudenosaunee Ska-Roh-Reh**

**Ambassador to the United Nations**

**Douglas S. Anderson**

**And**

**International Native Tradition Interchange, Inc.**

I speak for no one, but yet I speak for everyone, I speak for the elders that have passed and no longer have a voice to speak. I speak for the unborn children, the Future Generations (7th Generations) that have no voice to speak today.

The Industrial Nations of Turtle Island / North America in the United States and Canada have violated Indigenous Peoples, Children, Women and Men by unloading Contaminated Heavy Metals and Radioactive Material on Indigenous Lands. This has caused adverse health effects and Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide to our peoples. Their corporate claim to ownership of our land is dependent upon killing off Indigenous Peoples.

Every year, we have presented these issues to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII / Third Session) since it was established but nothing has happened. This time we wish to try something different. The Earth Summit Agenda 21 – (Section 25.1) - Speaks about YOUTH - (Section 25.12) states, Children not only will inherit the responsibility of looking after Mother Earth and the future Generations of the People, but in many developing countries they comprise nearly half the population. The 1990 World Summit for Children – (A/45/625), annex. (Section 25.13 b) states, Ensure that the interests of children are taken fully into account in the participatory process for sustainable development and environmental improvement. (Section 25.13 f) states, Establish procedures to incorporate children's concerns into all relevant policies and strategies for environment and development at the local, regional and national levels, including those concerning allocation of and entitlement to natural resources, housing and recreation needs, and control of pollution and toxicity in both rural and urban areas. (Section 26.1) states, In view of the interrelationship between the natural environment Mother Earth and its sustainable development and the cultural, social, economic and physical well being of indigenous people, national and international efforts to implement environmentally sound and sustainable development should recognize, accommodate, promote and strengthen the role of indigenous people and their communities.

We are citing these documents to ask whether the United Nations is serious about their intention to protect preserve and empower Indigenous Peoples. Do these words have meaning if so, we urge you to show us how we can effectively utilize these mechanisms within the United Nations system to bring about justice for our peoples.

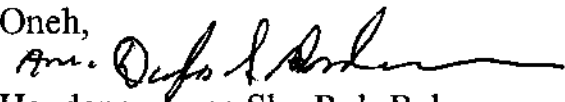
In conclusion, we urge ALL Member States of the United Nations to come forward to help us protect our Indigenous Peoples, land and life from the Industrialized Nations that are violating our environment, our peoples and our future generations.

Now that the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples is ending and this is the final year, 2004, we urge the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and Member States to show your good faith towards Indigenous Peoples by allowing Indigenous Peoples to become Permanent Observers to oversee the United Nations. It is only in this way, we who have been here from the beginning of time will be able to protect the next seven generations. But in order to protect the future generations, we must be

able to oversee the work of the United Nations at all levels just like the Holy See.

We request the Third Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, the NGOs, and the Indigenous Peoples of Mother Earth support us to bring charges against the Industrial Nation the United States for Environmental Health Problems, Human Rights Issues, and the Rights of the Child, The Rights of Women, and Economic and Social Development.

Finally, we request the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and all appropriate Special Rapporteurs under the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights enter into the United States and investigate and conduct a fact finding mission of all INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ISSUES.

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