

no 18

EMRIP LARS 018

16.01.10.08

DENMARK

LARS VOLCK MADSEN

Thank you Mr. Chair

Let me start by congratulating all on the establishment of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. My delegation also wishes to congratulate the members on their appointment to serve as experts in this important body, which is placed at the highest level, right under the Human Rights Council – and at the same level as the Advisory Committee.

You have an important and ~~indeed a tremendously~~ ^{some of} challenging task ahead of you. It is our hope, however, that with the assistance of all delegations the Expert Mechanism will be able to set a good precedence in the establishment of its methods of work, which will allow for true dialogue on the many pressing issues facing indigenous peoples and in the promotion of the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples as enshrined in the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other international human rights instruments.

My delegation looks forward to work with you and all delegations ~~and to assist you in fulfilling your mandate, which is to assist the Human Rights Council in carrying out its work. The coordination and cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples is essential in this regard.~~

situation of HR and

While drawing upon past work and experience in furthering indigenous rights within the United Nations system we urge you to look ahead and to complement the new methods of work, which the HRC is working hard to implement.

In order not to overburden this new and very important body, it is essential that all delegations stay focused on the issues selected for further study and show discipline with regards to the requests of the EMRIP. ^{And we encourage you to determine methods of work that reflect these realities.}

The mandate of the Expert Mechanism as set out in resolution 6/36 combined with resolution L. 17 of 18th September 2008, as we see it, provides ample opportunity for the EMRIP to contribute to the work of the HRC and in so doing promote the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as well as other international human rights instruments.

ready to

~~My delegation stands ready to assist and support you to~~

to chair you and the other members of the EM, cannot afford of Denmark

our best.

Mr. Chair, as you stressed in your opening remarks, the mandate and function of the EM is different from the former WG. Likewise you mentioned the need for self-restraint in light of the limited time. We can fully endorse these comments.