

PF17 Item 4 26

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues-Sixteenth Session  
NY, 24 April- 5 May 2017  
Discussion on the theme "Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples"

Topic: Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Intervention by: FIJI INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOUNDATION

Speaker: Mr. Nemani Ramasei

1. We pay respect to the Lenape Peoples- whose sovereign inheritance and ancestral grounds is the hilly island of Mana-hatta.
2. We also acknowledge the work of the UN Permanent Forum and its advisers, culminating in the zero draft of consultation process associated with indigenous peoples participation at the General Assembly. It is a starting position.
3. This must be harmonized to provide tangible outcomes through the collaborative efforts of States and Indigenous Peoples. Further, it must be relevant and implementable.
4. With no permanent participatory arrangements in place, this is an enormous undertaking: given that there are 400 million indigenous peoples globally, comprising 500 distinct tribes. This comprises 5 percent of global population, representing 15 percent of the world's poorest. Some, by virtue of history, are divided by new State borders.
5. For example, the social ramification of the US wall across Mexico is very real divider. The Nakoda of Southern Alberta and the Sioux in North Dakota are First Nations peoples similarly partitioned by modern States. To date they have continued connection through observance and acknowledgement of customary practices beyond the construct of Article 36 of UNDRIP. In Fiji Constitutional mainstreaming of nomenclature pertaining to indigeneity- legally disempower indigenous Fijians through dilution of exclusive associations to it.
6. Operationalizing options and suggested alternative texts under Para 6 of the Zero Draft is a challenge, especially facilitating lead up process prior to it. We can seek guidance from existing mechanisms. We prefer the current existing arrangements such as the representative status of EU nations and accorded full status at the G/A as compared to existing observer status where representation is through the agency of sponsor member states.

We **RECOMMEND** the following:

1. That the seven regions under UNPFII be maintained with 2 representatives chosen through regional preparatory meetings: where "one country-one vote" rule must be employed during nominations at regional deliberations.
2. The creation of a separate category for indigenous peoples in the General Assembly, which would allow indigenous peoples to participate without defining themselves as member States.
3. Permanent removal of proxy participation through the agency of other member States by the 19<sup>th</sup> Session. Instead, the UN must ensure the grant of full participatory status with all procedural rights accorded to Indigenous Peoples at the General Assembly.

Thank you

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1. Taumada na vakavinavinaka kina bure vanua o Lanape, nai itaukei ni sau kei na yavu tabu ni yañuyanu vei-ulunivanua o Manahatta.
  2. Sa gole talega na vakavinavinaka kina cakacaka ni Matabose levu kei Vuravura na UN kei ira na kena dau ni vakasala, ena vuku ni lavelave taumada ni tuvutuva ni cakacaka me baleta na veivosaki taki ni noda dabe ka lewe ni bose nai taukei ni vanua ena loma matabose levu ni General Assembly. Oqo e sa qai matai ga ni kalawa.
  3. La ena bibi me duavata ka vakanananu ni vakasama oqo ena vuku ni cakacaka vata ni Matanitu kei na Matanitu Taukei. E na uasivi sara me na yaga ka rawa ni cakacakataki ka qaravi me laurai votu na veisau.
  4. Me vaka ni sega ni dua tu nai tuvatuva matata esa tiko rawa, ena sasaga levu na sasaga oqo-vakabibi ni 400 na milioni na levu itaukei ni vanua e vuravura, ka umani kina e 500 na Vanua Yavutu duidui. Oqo e 5 ga na pasede ni wiliwili kece kei vuravura, ia e oka talega e loma na 15 na pasede ni vakatagedegede ni bula dravudravua e noda vuravura.
  5. Na bai nai yala ni vanua nei Merika ena vualiku kei Mexico e tawasei ira na kenai taukei dina. E vaka kina oira na wekada mai na ceva kei Alberta ka ra veiwekani kei ira nai taukei Sioux mai na vualiku kei Dakota ka ra tawasei ena vuku ni yalayala vou ni Matanitu duidui. Ia e ra duavata tu ena vuku ni tovo kei nai valavla vakavanua ka uabaleta na vakanananu taumada ni tabana e 36 ka vauci ena veiyalayalati ni UNDRIP. O ira nai taukei mai Viti era sa suguti ena nodra dodonu ni kena vakayagataki na vosa "Fijian" ena yavu ni Vakavulewa me rawa ni vakayagataki raballevu ka oka kina oira na veitamata duidui eso ka sega ni itaukei kei Viti.
  6. Na vakatutu ena tuvatuva ka volai ena wase ono ni vola taumada e bolebole levu, vakabibi na lewai matua ni veilesi mai nai wasewase matanitu taukei duidui eso. Ia e rawa ni da vuli mai na tuvatuva eso ka vakayagataki oti. Ena vinaka me na taurivaki nai tuvatuva ni mata vakaturi ni matanitu mai Urope-oya na kena soli na dodonu kece ni lewe ni bose levu ni General Assembly ka sega ni yalani me vaka na dodonu ga ni vakarorogo ka sega kina na vakaitavi.
- Oqo na neitou vakatutu:
1. Me vakadeitaki na vitu nai wasewase duidui ni matanitu taukei, ia me digitaki mai e rua na mata ena vei veiwesewase ka me lawatu ni veivakaturi oya me dua na matanitu ka dua na nona digidi.
  2. Na kena buli e duatani nai wasewase vakatabikua saraga vei ira nai Taukei ni Vanua mera lewe ni bose ni General Assembly, ka me vakatarai mera tu ga vakaira ga ka sega kina ni gadrevi na veiwekani kei ira na matanitu veilutaki tiko.
  3. Na kena bokoci laivi nai lakolako mata vakaturi sa dau caka tiko mai vei ira na Matanitu, vei soqosoqo veiwekani, ena ka 19th ni bose levu kacivi ka tarava.. Me na veivakadeitaki na matabose levu kei vuravura na kena soli vakadua na dodonu kei na galala ni vakaitavi ena loma ni bose levu ena General Assembly nodra mata nai taukei ni veiwesewase e vitu.