

PFI'2 Valmaine 103
Opening remarks
Valmaine Toki

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Eleventh Session

Opening Comments WIPO

United Nations Head-Quarters, New York

Thank you Mr Chair

It is my pleasure to open this session on a Comprehensive dialogue with the World Intellectual Property Organisation – item ~~4~~₅ of your agenda.

There are many areas in the work of WIPO that have a focus for indigenous peoples.

The establishment of the Inter Governmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore is one such area.

The Permanent Forum also notes there are initiatives that enable indigenous peoples to participate in the work of WIPO, including the Voluntary Fund which facilitates indigenous peoples to attend meetings as well as the Indigenous Intellectual Property Law Fellowship Program and Capacity Building Workshops.

However, there are also areas where WIPO can perhaps look to in order to improve processes for meaningful indigenous participation.

I now give the floor to WIPO.