



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8 July, 2014

Dear Representatives of Indigenous Peoples,

I am pleased provide you, in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 66/296 on the, "Organization of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples", a zero-draft conference outcome document.

This document will serve as the focus of consultations to be convened by me on Wednesday, 16 July, 2014, the details of which have already been communicated to you by my office. A revised draft outcome document will be issued shortly after the conclusion of the aforementioned meeting and considered at a second and final consultation, on Monday, 18 August, 2014.

Please be advised that the attached zero-draft is wholly the product of submissions by Member States and Indigenous Peoples during consultations held to date and does not in any way, represent the views of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Ashe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John W. Ashe

Representatives of Indigenous Peoples.

8 July 2014

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## Zero draft resolution to be adopted by the General Assembly on 22 September 2014

### 69/ Declaration of the High-level meeting of the General Assembly: The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts this Outcome Document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.*

### **Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly: The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

We, the Heads of State and Government, Ministers and representatives of Member States, in a spirit of cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples of the world, assembled at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 and 23 September 2014, on the occasion of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to reiterate the important and continuing role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous peoples. We welcome the contribution of indigenous peoples to the World Conference in terms of articulating the issues of greatest importance to them, as set out in the Alta Outcome Document<sup>1</sup> emanating from the Global Indigenous Preparatory Conference for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples held in Alta, Norway in June 2013. (Annex 1). We also note the inclusive preparatory process for this High-level Plenary meeting, including the comprehensive engagement of the representatives of indigenous peoples in all consultations.

1. Reaffirm our solemn commitment to promote and advance the rights of indigenous peoples already established in universally agreed international human rights norms and standards, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>2</sup>, which sets the minimum standards for the survival, dignity, and well-being of the Indigenous Peoples of the world.
2. Recall other major achievements of the past two decades in building an international framework for the advancement of the rights and aspirations of the world's indigenous peoples, including the establishment of the Permanent Forum on

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<sup>1</sup> A/67/994.

<sup>2</sup> A/RES/61/295.

Indigenous Issues, the creation of an Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and commit to follow up on the recommendations and advice issued by these bodies.

3. Reaffirm that indigenous peoples are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination in the exercise of their rights.

## I

4. Commit to actions directed at translating the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into national law, and to promote awareness of it among all sectors of society, especially the judiciary, Members of Parliament, electoral officers, educators and the civil service.

5. Harmonize our national constitutions and legislation, where relevant, to recognize and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, consistent with the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

6. Invite Governments that have not done so to ratify International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

7. Encourage Governments to prepare national action plans or strategies devoted to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

8. Acknowledge that indigenous peoples' justice mechanisms can play a positive role in dispute resolution and contribute to harmonious relationships within indigenous peoples' communities and within society in line with international human rights standards. All indigenous persons should enjoy full and equal access to these justice mechanisms.

9. Commit to coordination and dialogue with indigenous peoples' justice institutions so as to improve access to justice for indigenous peoples, in particular indigenous persons with disabilities and indigenous women and girls, as well as enhancing justice awareness campaigns, including ones directed at men and boys.

10. Recognise the need to enable and empower indigenous peoples to more effectively address all forms of violence against indigenous women, youth and children, in particular sexual and domestic violence, trafficking and violence related to extractive industries.

11. Commit to work, with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, to disaggregate data based on indigenous identity, including in our population and housing censuses. This would be aimed at helping to draft and implement public policy and legislation that better addresses the situation of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

12. Commit to develop fair, transparent and effective mechanisms, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, to enable access to and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains.

## II

13. Request the United Nations Human Rights Council, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, to consider recommending to the 71st session of the General Assembly possible ways to more effectively evaluate and improve the

implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

14. Encourage Human Rights Treaty bodies to consider including in their deliberations the relevant provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and to focus attention on their implementation.

15. Urge the United Nations system to support national and regional consultation and cooperation mechanisms with indigenous peoples consistent with the United Nations Development Group Guidelines for Indigenous Peoples to ensure the implementation of indigenous peoples' priorities and rights.

16. Recall the General Assembly Resolution on National institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights<sup>3</sup> and welcome the increasingly important role of national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of the human rights of indigenous peoples and encourage their active role in advancing the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

17. Request the Secretary-General, with the support of the United Nations Inter-Agency Support Group for Indigenous Issues, and with indigenous peoples, Member States, and other relevant stakeholders, to develop a draft System-wide Action Plan focused on the following priority areas:

- (a) Eradication of poverty
- (b) Violence against indigenous women and children;
- (c) The right to communication;
- (d) Inter-culturality of health and education;
- (e) Occupations, livelihoods, entrepreneurship;
- (f) Data disaggregation and indicators;
- (g) Establishment of national level inter-agency support groups;
- (h) Indigenous persons with a disability;
- (i) Good governance and access to justice; and
- (j) Strengthening human rights protection mechanisms.

18. Invite the Secretary General to give consideration to the appointment of a High Representative for Indigenous Peoples, at the appropriate level, to raise awareness of the proposed Action Plan, after its adoption, and to mobilize support for its subsequent implementation.

19. Request the Secretary General, taking into account the aforementioned priority areas, in particular, violence against indigenous women and children, to assign responsibility to the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, to examine the causes and consequences of this violence dimension.

20. Building on the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of promoting participation at the United Nations of indigenous peoples' representatives

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<sup>3</sup> A/RES/68/171.

on the issues affecting them<sup>4</sup>, and the proposals it contains, request the Secretary-General to consider preparation of specific proposals regarding participation of indigenous peoples' governments at the United Nations.

21. Request the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with indigenous peoples and Member States, to make indigenous peoples issues a focus of its Human Development Report no later than 2018.

### III

22. Commit to establish, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent mechanisms, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognise and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources, including those that were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Such mechanisms should be duly authorized by judicial bodies empowered to resolve disputes over lands, territories and resources taken without the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process.

23. Commit to define, with free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, programmes and resources to support indigenous peoples' traditional occupations, local and diverse economies and livelihoods, traditional subsistence activities and food security.

24. Commit to develop and implement with indigenous peoples, national consultation mechanisms based on human rights standards, which are culturally appropriate and flexible, and relevant for the promotion of the right to free, prior and informed consent and that, in particular, are directed at respecting the lands, territories, resources, oceans and waters of indigenous peoples.

25. Commit to examine, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, the negative implications of resource extraction in order to incorporate indigenous peoples' rights under international law, including respect for the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

26. Affirm and recognise the right to the protection, preservation and restitution of sacred places, sites and cultural landscapes, and will cooperate with indigenous peoples to establish procedures and mechanisms that effectively promote the implementation of these rights.

27. Commit to promote the development of review mechanisms and protocols to ensure that the private sector upholds principles of good governance and the standards contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### IV

28. Commit to give due consideration to the rights of indigenous peoples in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and to mainstream the promotion and protection of these rights into the development agenda at the national, regional and international levels.

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<sup>4</sup> A/HRC/21/24.

29. Recognize the particular experience and knowledge accumulated by indigenous peoples with respect to securing sustainable development, through hunting, gathering, pastoralism, small scale agriculture and farming and call upon all actors to share their experiences in the formulation of the post-2015 development framework.

30. Recognize the role of indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and strategies as well as manifestation of their sciences, technologies and cultures in maintaining resilience when developing all national and international policies, standards and measures on climate change prevention, adaptation and mitigation.

31. Commit to provide, with the full, equal and effective participation of indigenous peoples, adequate resources that enable the empowerment of indigenous peoples to deliver and have access to high-quality and culturally adequate education, health, including mental health, and housing to improve the well-being of indigenous peoples.

32. Reaffirm that indigenous youth are equal to all other youth and we will support programmes of indigenous peoples to strengthen the capacity of indigenous youth, including the transmission of traditional knowledge, innovation and practices, as well as languages.

33. Urge Member States to cease militarization of lands, territories, waters and oceans of Indigenous Peoples and initiate processes to demilitarize these areas. Special measures should be adopted to ensure the protection of Indigenous Elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities, particularly in the context of armed conflicts.

#### V

34. Proclaim the Third International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, commencing on 1 January 2015, and decide that the goal of the Third Decade shall be international cooperation for the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

35. Invite the Secretary-General to consider assigning responsibility for coordination of the Third International Decade to the proposed High Representative for Indigenous Peoples.

36. Invite Member States and the private sector alike to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues and the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Partnership as a means of promoting the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide.

37. Request the Secretary-General, in coordination with all the relevant United Nations entities, to include information on progress made in the implementation of this outcome document in reports on issues concerning Indigenous Peoples, and to make recommendations, as appropriate, for concrete and further steps to implement the present outcome document within the context of the development agenda beyond 2015.

38. Request the General Assembly to include a specific focus on indigenous peoples in its final report on the achievement of the millennium development goals.

39. Request the Secretary General to report to the 70<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly on progress toward implementation of this outcome document.