Forum: The Human Rights Council

Question of: Improving the Situation and Possibilities of Indigenous Peoples

Submitted by: Paraguay



Co-submitted by: Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Georgia, Japan, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal, Slovenia

1 The Human Rights Committee, 2 3 Deeply concerned about the disadvantages Indigenous Peoples face around the world, even in so-called 4 first world countries, 5 6 Mindful of the gravity and urgency of this issue, 7 8 Fully believing in the principle of equal opportunities for every human being worldwide, 9 10 Noting with regret that the sell-out of traditions and values of Indigenous Peoples is necessary to 11 guarantee their survival in our modern world, 12 13 Having examined the degrading and inhumane working and living conditions for native population all 14 around the world, 15 16 Reaffirming the statutes laid down in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 17 18 1. <u>Strongly condemns</u> the above noted conditions as unacceptable and definitely improvable; 19 20 2. Expresses its appreciation of the work of Organizations such as the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, Center for World Indigenous Studies, Survival International or Terralingua and 21 22 guaranteeing further support; 23 24 3. Announces its intention to restructure the United Nations Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues 25 to 26 a. meet thrice a year 27 b. not only be an advisory body for the Economic and Social Council but also to the Human Rights 28 Council 29 c. observe the treatment of Native Peoples and investigate independently in any case of 30 oppression of any indigenous group no matter how small 31 d. take action without fear of repressive reactions e. directly approach the local governments with solutions 32 33 f. occupy a seat in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the General Assembly (GA) to effectively operate; 34 35 36 4. Hopes for the participation of more member states on the given topic, following the examples of 37 Canada and New Zealand and establishing their own governmental institution working on the 38 rights and representation of Indigenous Peoples;

39 40 41 42 43	5.	Encourages all member states to sign and ratify the declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as well as the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, if they have not done so, and fully implement the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
44 45 46 47 48 49 50		Asks the regional and national media of all member states to create public awareness on the situation of Indigenous Peoples and giving them a voice in society by a. offering formats/channels/magazines in their native language b. preparing documentaries and conducting interviews on the issue c. arranging seminars, conferences and preparing TV shows d. encouraging them to speak publicly about their opinions, ideas and demands;
51 52 53	7.	<u>Urges</u> all member states to establish guidelines for any corporation to follow when conducting business with Indigenous Peoples;
54 55 56	8.	Further urges all member states to offer impartial legal counsel to Indigenous Peoples when they are approached by a corporation seeking to do business with them to ensure that any transaction or contract is compliant with national and international law and does not constitute exploitation;
57 58 59 60	9.	<u>Calls</u> for regular monitoring between the government and the Indigenous Peoples living in this country, to discuss the situation of Indigenous Peoples and invites Indigenous Peoples to take part in these meetings;
61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68	10.	 Further encourages all member states to support cross-border initiatives and exchange between communities of Indigenous Peoples to a. enable that Indigenous Peoples remain united and homogeneous across arbitrary national borders; b. ensure the preservation of Indigenous Peoples' culture and language; c. promote exchange and friendship between the two states harboring the Indigenous communities;
69 70	11.	<u>Supports</u> any further ideas, measures and strategies which can be helpful in the problem-solving process.