



General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 66 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2011

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/66/459)]

66/142. Rights of indigenous peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of indigenous peoples,

Reaffirming its resolution 65/198 of 21 December 2010, in which it decided to organize a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in 2014,

Recalling its resolution 59/174 of 20 December 2004 on the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005–2014),

Recalling also the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,¹ which addresses their individual and collective rights,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² the 2005 World Summit Outcome³ and the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,⁴

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 18/8 of 29 September 2011 on human rights and indigenous peoples,⁵

Recalling also the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth,⁶ hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,

Stressing the importance of promoting and pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also through

¹ Resolution 61/295, annex.

² See resolution 55/2.

³ See resolution 60/1.

⁴ See resolution 65/1.

⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

⁶ See A/64/777, annexes I and II.



international cooperation to support national and regional efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, including the right to maintain and strengthen the distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions of indigenous peoples and the right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State,

Recognizing the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of the social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional scientific knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment,

Concerned about the extreme disadvantages that indigenous peoples have typically faced across a range of social and economic indicators and about the impediments to their full enjoyment of their rights,

Recalling its resolution 65/198, by which it decided to expand the mandate of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations so that it could assist representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and communities to participate in sessions of the Human Rights Council and of human rights treaty bodies, on the basis of diverse and renewed participation and in accordance with relevant rules and regulations, including Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, and urged States to contribute to the Fund,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, takes note of his report on the rights of indigenous peoples,⁷ and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to his requests for visits;

2. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Trust Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, and invites indigenous organizations and private institutions and individuals to do likewise;

3. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)⁸ to consider doing so and to consider supporting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,¹ and welcomes the increased support by States for the Declaration;

4. *Encourages* States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, to take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of the Declaration;

5. *Encourages* all interested parties, in particular indigenous peoples, to disseminate and consider good practices at different levels as a practical guide on how to attain the goals of the Declaration;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to convene, within existing resources, a high-level event during the eleventh session of the Forum to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in order to raise awareness of the importance of pursuing its objectives;

⁷ See A/66/288.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

7. *Stresses* that the result of that event could serve as an input for the preparation of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in 2014, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples;

8. *Invites* Governments, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders, including the media, as well as relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to carry out activities focused on marking the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration, at the regional and national levels;

9. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled “Rights of indigenous peoples”.

*89th plenary meeting
19 December 2011*