

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Social Policy and Development
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
Room DC2-1772 United Nations, New York, New York 10017
Telephone (917) 367-5100 - Fax (917) 367-5102

28 November 2005

Dear Friend,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the fifth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be convened from 15 to 26 May 2006 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The session will be held in Conference Room II of the United Nations Secretariat Building.

The special theme to be considered will be: "Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples: Re-defining the Millennium Development Goals". The full agenda will appear on the website shortly. Other relevant information on the fifth session of the Permanent Forum will be made available in due time at the following address: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/index.html>.

Should your organization wish to send one or more representatives to this session of the Permanent Forum, please provide the names(s) of your designated representative(s) to Mr. Yao Ngoran, Chief, NGO Unit, Division for Social Policy and Development, DC2-1324, United Nations, NY 10017, fax: (212) 963-3062, Email: ngoran@un.org, using one of the forms available at the Webpage of the Forum to enable us to facilitate their access to the United Nations buildings during the session.

Representatives of organizations in need of a visa to enter the United States should note that American Consulates request that visa applications be submitted three months prior to the opening of the session. Therefore we encourage representatives of interested non-governmental organizations (NGOs), indigenous peoples' organizations (IPOs) and academic institutions to submit their applications for visa as early as possible, preferably before 16 February 2006. In the case they need a letter from us confirming their pre-registration, they should fill out one of the above-mentioned forms and send it back to us so that we can provide them with a confirmation letter.

Please note that there is one form for Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, another one for Indigenous Peoples' Organizations and a third for academic institutions interested in the work of the Forum. NGOs having representatives holding annual group-passes are also encouraged to use the form to provide us with the names of their representatives so as to allow pre-registration for a proper planning of the session. The process of pre-registration is important for all representatives of NGOs, IPOs and academic institutions interested in attending the session. It should be completed at the latest by 16 April 2006, one month before the opening of the session. It should also be understood that the costs of travel and daily subsistence, arrangements for travel, accommodation and visas are the responsibility of participants.

Furthermore, NGOs in consultative status should submit documents to the Forum as per ECOSOC rules. Please see attachment for details.

For additional information regarding your participation at this session of the Permanent Forum, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Yao Ngoran.

Best regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elissavet Stamatopoulou', followed by a short horizontal line.

Elissavet Stamatopoulou
Chief

