



## **MOTHER EARTH DAY SPECIAL EVENT**

Wednesday, 22 April 2009  
United Nations Headquarters, New York  
Conference Room 4  
2.30pm -5.30pm

**Participants are kindly invited to be seated by 2.15 pm**

Organized by the UN-DESA Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the Division for Social Policy and Development

In cooperation with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, the UN-DESA Division for Sustainable Development and the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the United Nations Environment Programme as well as the United Confederation of Taino People, the Tribal Link Foundation, Franciscans International, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Sunray Meditation Society, the Temple of Understanding, VIVAT and Passionists International

### **PROGRAMME**

Moderator: Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director of the Division for Sustainable Development

#### **1. Opening**

- Sounding of the Guamo (conch shell), by Mr Roberto Borrero (Boriken Taino)
- Ms. Tonya Gonnella Frichner (Onondaga Nation)

#### **2. The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann**

#### **3. The President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, H.E. Mr. Evo Morales Ayma**

#### **4. Cultural Presentation**

- The Silver Cloud Singers

#### **5. Expert Panel:**

- Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director of the Division for Sustainable Development
- Mr. Leonardo Boff, Emeritus Professor of Ethics, Philosophy of Religion and Ecology at the Rio de Janeiro State University
- Ms. Juanita Castano, Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, New York Liaison Office
- Ms. Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians
- Ms. Thanh Xuan Nguyen, Executive Director of Women's Environment and Development Organization
- Ms. Jan McAlpine, Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

#### **6. Discussion**