



**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, INDIGENOUS VOICES**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **Events to celebrate the historic United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples next week**

*Declaration to be considered for adoption by the General Assembly*

**WHAT:** Press conference to discuss the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, its history, significance and current status.

**WHO:** Speakers will include H.E. Mr. Enrique Berruga, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN; Mr. Craig Mokhiber, Deputy Director, New York, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; Ms. Tonya Gonnella Frichner Esq., President, American Indian Law Alliance; and Mr. Mattias Åhrén, Head, Human Rights Unit, the Saami Council, moderated by Ms. Elsa Stamatopoulou, Chief, Secretariat of United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/DSPD/DESA.

**WHEN:** 11:00 a.m., Friday, 13 October, 2006

**WHERE:** S- 226, United Nations Headquarters, 1st Avenue & 46th Street

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, was adopted by the Human Rights Council on 29 June 2006 after more than twenty years of efforts.
- On 16 and 17 October the Third Committee of the General Assembly will discuss indigenous issues.
- Coinciding with the occasion, the Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/DSPD/DESA, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, NGOs and Permanent Missions of Member States to the UN will organize several events to highlight the landmark Declaration.

**MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS:** Journalists without UN accreditation wishing to attend should fax a request on company letterhead signed by a supervisor to Mr. Gary Fowlie, Chief, UN Media Accreditation Unit at +1(212) 963-4642. Media accreditation forms and general information can be found at [www.un.org/media/accreditation](http://www.un.org/media/accreditation) or call +1 (212) 963-6934

**For more information on the Declaration**, please visit:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/declaration.html>

**For background information on the Declaration or interviews** with UN officials and indigenous leaders, please contact:

Oisika Chakrabarti, Department of Public Information, tel: 212.963.6816, e-mail: [mediainfo@un.org](mailto:mediainfo@un.org)

**For Secretariat of the Permanent Forum**, please contact:

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