



23 July 2007

Excellency,

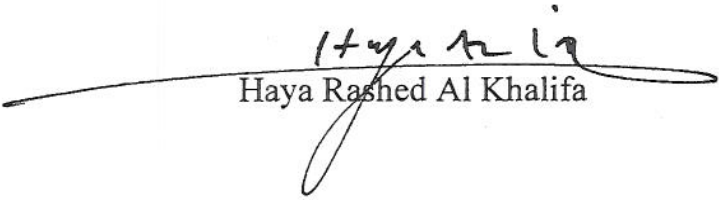
I would like to refer to my earlier letter dated 6 June 2007 in which I informed you of the appointment of H.E. Hilario G. Davide, Jr., the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations, to undertake on my behalf further consultations on the draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith the report of H.E. Ambassador Davide dated 13 July 2007, as well as his supplementary report dated 20 July 2007, regarding the process of consultations undertaken until now.

The reports outline a proposed way forward to advance this issue, in order to allow us to implement the mandate of the General Assembly and adopt the draft Declaration before the end of the 61st session. I would like to congratulate H.E. Ambassador Davide on his extensive efforts to bridge the different positions of Member States.

I am hopeful that you will consider this proposed way forward in a flexible and constructive manner. I am aware that consultations among Member States are still ongoing, and would like to encourage all of you to reach a swift common understanding to allow the General Assembly to take a decision on this very important issue during the first week of September 2007.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.


Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

To:
All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations