



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 October, 2016

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter, dated 13 October, 2016 from the Advisers of the consultation process concerning the ways to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, transmitting the indicative roadmap for the next meetings.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest considerations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

New York 13th October 2016

Excellency,

With the reference to your letter dated 28 September, allow us to express our deep appreciation in your reappointment of us as Advisors to the consultation process concerning the ways to enable the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant UN bodies on issues affecting them. We are grateful for your support in the process, including the convening of the informal launch briefing on 3 October 2016, at United Nations in New York.

The launch briefing provided a valuable opportunity for us to hear views from Members States and Indigenous Peoples on our proposed roadmap and approach to the consultation process. The indicative roadmap for meetings is as follows:

- 14th and 15th December
- 30th January to 1st February
- 27th and 28th February
- The weeks of the Permanent Forum, 24th April - 5th May (specific dates to be confirmed, depending on the schedule of the forum)

After these discussions a draft resolution would be finalized and adopted by the General Assembly as set out in General Assembly resolution 70/232.

It is our view that a successful outcome can only be achieved in partnership together with Member States and Indigenous Peoples. It is therefore important that the process remains inclusive as we have recommended in the letter forwarding the final compilation (8th July).

As there were also many requests for more time to consult nationally with Indigenous Peoples, it is good to have time for this during the autumn. Also many delegations are small and in that way it is better to have the actual discussions start only when the time consuming Third Committee is over.

The final compilation and addendum (A/70/990) is available in all official UN languages at: www.undocs.org/a/70/990. The Addendum of the compilation that includes elements for future discussion provides us a basis for the meetings in December.

The addendum of the compilation and updated information on the consultation process is also available at the consultation process website:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/participation-of-indigenous-peoples-at-the-united-nations.html>

We are looking forward to continuing to engage on this important subject with all stakeholders and to your continued support.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Ambassador Kai Sauer
Permanent Representative of Finland
to the United Nations



Ambassador Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee
Permanent Representative of Ghana
to the United Nations



Dr. Claire Charters



Prof. James Anaya