



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 April 2012

Excellency,

On 21 December 2010, the General Assembly adopted resolution 65/198 entitled “Indigenous Issues”. Through this resolution, the General Assembly decided to convene a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in 2014, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

In accordance with paragraph 8 of the resolution the main objective of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples is to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples and to pursue the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

As you are aware, the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in 2007, is considered a milestone in the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples. The Declaration is the result of an open and inclusive process of dialogue and negotiations among and between Member States and Indigenous Peoples. The World Conference provides an opportunity for the United Nations to continue this established practice.

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

