



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29 August, 2014

Excellency,

I refer to the High-Level Plenary meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, to be known as the “World Conference on Indigenous Peoples”, to be held on 22 September 2014, and the afternoon of 23 September 2014.

In this context, I have the honour to bring to your attention the attached draft Outcome Document, which is reflective of written and oral submissions of interested parties to the Informal Consultations of 18 and 19 August in which there was active participation of Member States and Indigenous Peoples.

With the compilation of this draft Outcome Document, I am pleased to inform that the informal consultation phase involving Member States and Indigenous Peoples is now concluded. As a consequence, we have now reached the final phase in the preparation process for the World Conference, that of the inter-governmental negotiation among Member States.

The attached Outcome Document will serve as the basis for the inter-governmental negotiation. Informal Consultations in this regard will be co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Andrej Logar, Permanent Representative of Slovenia, and H.E. Ms. Marjon Kamara, Permanent Representative of Liberia. The scheduled dates for the Informal Consultations are as follows:

Wednesday, 3 September, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 4 September, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 and 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, 5 September, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

I encourage your Excellency’s delegation to actively participate in the upcoming informal consultation, the venue of which will subsequently be communicated in the Journal of the United Nations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Ashe".

John W. Ashe

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

26 August 2014

**Draft outcome document to be adopted by the General Assembly
on 22 September 2014**

**69/. Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General
Assembly: The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

The General Assembly

Adopts the following outcome document:

**Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the
General Assembly: The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

1. We, the Heads of State and Government, Ministers and representatives of Member States, reaffirming our solemn commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, in a spirit of cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples of the world are assembled at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 and 23 September 2014, on the occasion of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to reiterate the important and continuing role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous peoples.
2. We welcome the indigenous peoples' preparatory processes for the World Conference including the Global Indigenous Preparatory Conference for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples held in Alta, Norway, in June 2013. We take note of the outcome document of the Alta Conference¹ and other contributions made by indigenous peoples. We also welcome the inclusive preparatory process for this High-level Plenary meeting, including the comprehensive engagement of the representatives of indigenous peoples.
3. In adopting this outcome document, we reaffirm our commitment to consult and cooperate in good faith with indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent, prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands, territories and resources or before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.
4. We reaffirm our solemn commitment to respect, promote and advance and in no way diminish the rights of indigenous peoples, including those set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the

¹ Alta Outcome Document A/67/994.

General Assembly on 13 September 2007².⁵ In addition to the Declaration, we recall the other major achievements of the past two decades in building an international framework for the advancement of the rights and aspirations of the world's indigenous peoples, including the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the creation of an Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We commit to follow up on recommendations and advice issued by these bodies in cooperation with indigenous peoples.

6. We encourage those states that have not yet ratified or acceded to the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (no. 169), to consider doing so; we recall the obligation under the Convention, of ratifying States to develop coordinated and systematic action to protect the rights of indigenous peoples³.

7. We reaffirm our commitment to take legislative, policy and administrative measures to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to promote awareness of it among all sectors of society, especially Members of Parliament, the judiciary and the civil service.

8. We commit to cooperate with indigenous peoples, through their own representative institutions, to prepare and implement national action plans where relevant, devoted to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

9. We commit to ensure that national action plans include specific measures to address the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities. We will support, in collaboration with indigenous peoples the development of capacity for indigenous persons with disabilities to effectively participate in the preparation and implementation of these action plans, and ensure that legislative, policy and administrative structures related to indigenous peoples are inclusive of indigenous persons with disabilities.

10. We commit to empower, cooperate and coordinate with indigenous peoples to disaggregate data and utilise culturally appropriate indicators of indigenous peoples' well-being to address the situation and needs of indigenous peoples and individuals, particularly elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

11. We commit, with the full, equal and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, to provide adequate resources that enable the empowerment of Indigenous Peoples to deliver and have access to high quality and culturally based education, health, housing and other economic and social programmes to improve their well-being.

12. We commit to ensure that indigenous peoples and individuals enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical, mental and spiritual health. We will improve access to sexual and reproductive health and reduce rates of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and non-communicable diseases, by increasing resources and focusing on prevention. We will also respect indigenous peoples' traditional health practices, sciences and medicines.

²A/RES/61/295.

³United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

13. We will support the empowerment and capacity-building of Indigenous youth for participation in decision making processes. We commit to develop, in consultation with indigenous peoples, policies, programmes and resources for indigenous youth that prioritise awareness and understanding of their rights, health, education and transmission of traditional knowledge, languages and practices.

14. We acknowledge that indigenous peoples' justice institutions can play a positive role in dispute resolution and contribute to harmonious relationships within indigenous peoples' communities and within society, consistent with international human rights norms, standards and principles. We commit to coordination and dialogue with indigenous peoples' justice institutions.

15. We commit to support the empowerment of indigenous women. We will formulate and implement, in collaboration with indigenous peoples, particularly indigenous women and their organizations, policies and programmes designed to promote capacity-building and strengthen their leadership. We will support measures which will ensure full and effective participation of indigenous women in decision making processes at all levels and in all areas, and eliminate barriers for their participation in political, economic, social and cultural life.

16. We will increase, as a matter of priority, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, our efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous peoples and individuals, in particular, violence against women, youth and children, by strengthening legal, policy and institutional frameworks.

17. We commit to establish at the national level, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent mechanisms to acknowledge, advance and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to lands, territories and resources. Such mechanisms will be culturally appropriate and flexible, and competent to safeguard free, prior and informed consent by indigenous peoples prior to development or use of lands, territories and resources.

18. We commit to address the impact or potential impact of major development projects, including extractive industries, on indigenous peoples and to ensure transparency and benefit sharing. The rights of indigenous peoples regarding development of lands, territories and resources, will be incorporated into law, policies and practice.

19. We commit to develop, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, policies, programmes and resources to support indigenous peoples' occupations, economies, livelihoods, seeds, and food security.

20. We commit to give effect to indigenous peoples' right to their religious and cultural sites, as well as call upon all states to provide access to and repatriation of their ceremonial objects and human remains. We shall establish fair, transparent and effective mechanisms for access and repatriation at national and international levels in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned.

21. We urge Member States to initiate processes to demilitarize indigenous peoples' lands and territories, unless military activity is justified by a relevant public interest. Where military activities exist, we urge Member States to immediately commence effective consultations with the indigenous peoples concerned.

22. We invite the United Nations Human Rights Council in consultation with indigenous peoples, to recommend to the 71st session of the General Assembly on options to use existing United Nations mechanisms to more effectively promote

respect for and full application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In this process, the Council may review the role of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to better assist Member States to monitor, evaluate and improve implementation of the Declaration.

23. We invite Human Rights Treaty bodies to consider the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in accordance with their existing mandates. We commit to include information regarding the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples in our reports to Human Rights Treaty bodies, and in Universal Periodic Review procedures.

24. We welcome the increasingly important role of national human rights institutions⁴, as well as regional human rights institutions in contributing to the achievement of the ends of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We will encourage the private sector, civil society, and academia to take an active role in respecting, promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples.

25. We request the Secretary-General, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples and Member States, to develop a System-wide Action Plan within existing resources, to ensure a coherent approach to the full realization of the provisions of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

26. We invite the Secretary General, in light of the need for increased awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples, to give consideration to the appointment of a United Nations official at the highest possible level.

27. We invite the Human Rights Council to consider examining the causes and consequences of violence against indigenous women and girls, in consultation with the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and other Special Procedures. We also request the Economic and Social Council to call on the Commission on the Status of Women to decide at its 59th session that “the empowerment of indigenous women” will be a priority theme at a future session.

28. Building on the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of promoting participation at the United Nations of indigenous peoples’ representatives on the issues affecting them⁵, we request the Secretary-General to present concrete proposals to the 70th Session of the General Assembly that enable the direct participation of indigenous peoples’ and their representative institutions at the United Nations.

29. We invite the Economic and Social Council to organize a high-level panel discussion in conjunction with indigenous peoples, during its Coordination and Management meetings to review the policies and procedures on indigenous peoples within ECOSOC subsidiary bodies.

30. We commit to respect the contributions of indigenous peoples to ecosystem management and sustainable development. This includes knowledge generated through experience in hunting, gathering, fishing, pastoralism and agriculture, as well as their sciences, technologies and cultures.

31. We confirm that indigenous peoples’ knowledge and strategies to sustain their environment will be respected and utilized when we develop national and

⁴ A/RES/68/171.

⁵ A/HRC/21/24.

international policies, standards and measures on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

32. We resolve to give due consideration to the rights of indigenous peoples in the process of elaborating the post-2015 development agenda and to mainstream the promotion and protection of their cultures and rights into the development agenda at the national, regional and international levels.

33. We invite Member States and actively encourage the private sector, and other institutions to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues, IFAD Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility, and the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Partnership as a means of promoting the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide.

34. We request the Secretary-General to include a specific focus on indigenous peoples in the final report⁶ on the achievement of the millennium development goals.

35. We request the Secretary-General, in coordination with relevant United Nations system entities, to report on progress to the 71st session of the General Assembly and make recommendations, as appropriate, for further concrete steps to implement this outcome document.

36. We request the Secretary-General to revert on the financial implications, if any, at the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

⁶ As called for in A/RES/65/1