



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INDIGENOUS VOICES

BACKGROUND

The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

Thirteenth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Discussion on Monday, 19 May 2014, from 10 a.m. all day

On 22-23 September 2014, the United Nations General Assembly will convene a high-level plenary meeting, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The main objectives of the World Conference are 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 (2007).

The World Conference will consist of two plenary meetings, three interactive roundtable discussions and one interactive panel discussion with representatives of governments and indigenous peoples. It is expected that the result will be a concise, action-oriented outcome document.


The World Conference is a landmark event to reinforce the United Nations' commitment to the world's indigenous peoples, as well as an opportunity to encourage Member States and the international community to take concrete steps to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In June 2013, to prepare for the World Conference, indigenous peoples worldwide defined their common position at a global preparatory conference hosted by the Sami Parliament in Alta, Norway. The result of this conference is the Alta Outcome Document.

On 5 March 2014, the President of the 68th session of the General Assembly appointed two Member States (Costa Rica and Slovenia) to assist in conducting consultations with Member States who would work hand in hand with two indigenous representatives. On 31 March 2014, the Global Coordinating Group (GCG) of Indigenous Peoples addressed a letter to the President of the 68th session of the General Assembly submitting two nominations of indigenous representatives (Ms. Myrna Cunningham Kain and Mr. Les Malezer) to serve as the indigenous advisers to the President of the General Assembly.



United Nations



The World Conference coincides with the Climate Change Summit on 23 September 2014.

The preparations for the World Conference coincide also with the ongoing discussions on the definition of a post-2015 development agenda to succeed the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It will also be the end of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. Despite many achievements, much work remains to be done to fully safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples in all regions of the world.

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<http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation> or call +1 212-963-6934 or 212-963-6937

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For more information on the eleventh session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, please see: <http://social.un.org/index/IndigenousPeoples.aspx>

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