



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 February, 2016

Dear Representatives of Indigenous Peoples:

Resolution 70/486, entitled “Rights of Indigenous Peoples”, requests the President of the General Assembly, at its seventieth session, to conduct, within existing resources, timely, inclusive, representative and transparent consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions from all regions of the world, and existing relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, on the possible measures necessary, including procedural and institutional steps and selection criteria, to enable the participation of indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them. The Assembly, also requested the President to prepare a compilation of the views presented during the consultations, including good practices within the United Nations regarding indigenous peoples’ participation, which will form the basis for a draft text to be finalized and adopted by the Assembly during its seventy-first session.

In this regard, I wish to inform you that I have appointed two Advisers from Member States – H.E. Mr. Kai Sauer, Permanent Representative of Finland and H.E. Mrs. Martha Ama Akyaa Pobe, Permanent Representative of Ghana, as well as two Advisers from indigenous peoples – Dr. Claire Winfield Ngamihi Charters of the Pacific region and Dr. James Anaya of the North America region – who will assist me in conducting these consultations.

I have the honour to invite you to participate in the first informal launch briefing which will take place at 3:00pm on Monday, 7 March 2016 in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

This briefing will provide an opportunity for Member States and indigenous peoples to express their views on the participation of indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them. I will be joined by the four aforementioned Advisers who will present a roadmap outlining how they propose to conduct the consultations and invite participants to provide inputs on how to take this process forward and answer any questions.

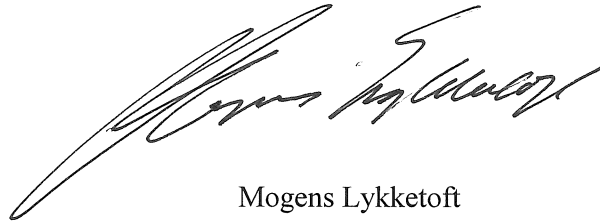
Representatives from indigenous peoples' organizations that wish to attend the briefing are invited to register by submitting the following information to indigenous_un@un.org by **3:00pm (EST) on Wednesday, 2 March**:

- Name(s) of individual(s) who will attend;
- Name of organization; and
- A brief description of the organization, including its objectives and activities, and which indigenous peoples it works for or represents.

The briefing will be streamed live on the United Nations Webcast which can be accessed at www.webtv.un.org.

Additional information on this process will be posted on the website www.un.org/indigenous as it becomes available.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', is positioned above the printed name.

Mogens Lykketoft

To Representatives of Indigenous Peoples