



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INDIGENOUS VOICES

MEDIA ADVISORY

# General Assembly to Take Action on Declaration on Indigenous Rights

**WHEN:** Thursday 13 September, 10:00am

**WHERE:** General Assembly Hall, UN Headquarters, First Avenue & 46<sup>th</sup> Street

**BACKGROUND:**


- After more than two decades of fruitful dialogue at the United Nations among Member States, with extraordinary participation of indigenous peoples from around the world, the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the Human Rights Council in June 2006. It was then forwarded to the General Assembly, which in December 2006 deferred consideration of the Declaration to allow further consultations during its 61<sup>st</sup> Session.
- These consultations have now come to fruition and the Assembly is expected to adopt the Declaration on Thursday 13 September.
- The Declaration addresses both individual and collective rights, cultural rights and identity, rights to education, health, employment, language and others. It outlaws discrimination against indigenous peoples and promotes their full and effective participation in all matters that concern them. It also ensures their right to remain distinct and to pursue their own visions of economic, social and cultural development. The Declaration explicitly encourages harmonious and cooperative relations between States and Indigenous Peoples.
- To view a recent press conference by indigenous leaders (Thursday 6 September) regarding the adoption of the Declaration, see <http://www.un.org/webcast/pc2007.htm> To read the summary transcript of the press conference, see [http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2007/070906\\_Indigenous.doc.htm](http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2007/070906_Indigenous.doc.htm). To view the UN news story, see <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=23728&Cr=indigenous&Cr1=#>

**MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS:** Journalists without UN accreditation who wish to attend the event should follow the instructions for obtaining accreditation at [www.un.org/media/accreditation](http://www.un.org/media/accreditation) All journalists, once accredited, who wish to film within the General Assembly Hall must report to the Office of Media Accreditation and Liaison, Room S-250A in the UN Secretariat building beforehand and an officer will escort them to the media booths.

**The General Assembly session will be webcast live on [www.un.org/webcast](http://www.un.org/webcast)**

**SEE OVER FOR LIST OF REGIONAL INDIGENOUS MEDIA CONTACTS**





**For more information on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, please see:**

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/declaration.html>

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## **List of regional indigenous media contacts**

**For general requests for indigenous representatives, contact Rainy Blue Cloud, tel: 1 530 559 0192, e-mail: [rbluecloud@ifg.org](mailto:rbluecloud@ifg.org)**

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