Dear Friend,

As Coordinator of the Second International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People, I am writing to draw your attention to General Assembly resolution 60/142, adopted in December 2005, by which the Assembly adopted the Programme of Action of the Second International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People as a guideline for action during the Decade. The resolution and Programme of Action are attached.

In that resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, urged all actors involved in the process to cooperate in a constructive and decisive manner in order to achieve rapid progress and concrete results in realizing the goals of the Second Decade; appealed to the international community to provide financial support to the Programme of Action, inter alia, through contributions to the Fund for the Second Decade; requested the Coordinator of the Second Decade to consult with Member States, agencies, organizations and other relevant bodies and mechanisms of the United Nations system, indigenous organizations and other non-governmental organizations about the possibility of undertaking midterm and end-of-term reviews of the Second Decade; and invited Governments, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations, indigenous and other non-governmental organizations and civil society actors to draw up their own plans for the Second Decade, using as a guideline for action the goal, objectives and Programme of Action of the Decade, including integrating a gender perspective.

I would therefore be grateful to receive information regarding your organization’s plans for the Second Decade as well as your views as to a midterm and an end-of-term review of the Second Decade.
Your response would be appreciated by 14 July 2006 so that the Coordinator for the Second Decade may inform the sixty-first session of the General Assembly. Correspondence should be sent c/o the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/DSPD/DESA, Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1772; tel.: (917) 367-5100, fax: (917) 367-5102; email: IndigenousPermanentForum@un.org.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

José Antonio Ocampo
Under-Secretary-General