



8 April 2022

H.E. Abdulla Shahid

President of the General Assembly of the United Nations

Excellency,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Chair of the Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples, a multi-regional group of 21 Member States, which include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, the Kingdom of Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Norway, New Zealand, Spain, Paraguay, Peru, the United States of America, and my own country, Mexico.

I write to you with respect to the request conveyed by the *Temporary Committee for the Indigenous Coordinating Body for Enhanced Participation in the United Nations*, through its letter of 29 March, 2022, to postpone the organization of the informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples, as decided by General Assembly resolution 71/321 of 21 September 2017 and by its decisions 74/565 of 12 August 2020 and 75/561 of 16 April 2021.

Given the limitations or lack of the digital connectivity and internet access of some indigenous communities in some parts of the world, and considering the associated difficulties that participation through virtual platforms imply, in the interest of seeking the broad, inclusive and geographically balanced participation of indigenous peoples in the meeting, the Member States of the Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples support the postponement of the hearing as petitioned by the *Temporary Committee for the Indigenous Coordinating Body for Enhanced Participation in the United Nations*.

In this regard, and following the precedent of decisions 74/565 and 75/561, we respectfully request that your Excellency table a draft decision for the consideration of the General Assembly to postpone the organization of the informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples to a later date.

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



Juan Ramón de la Fuente
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mexico