

21 April 2022

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 71/321 entitled "Enhancing the participation of indigenous peoples representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them", which requested the President of the General Assembly to organize and preside over informal interactive hearings and to prepare a summary of each hearing, during its seventy-second, seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions on the margins of the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, with indigenous peoples, ensuring, to the extent possible, balanced regional representation.

Having been postponed from the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly by General Assembly decisions 74/565 and 75/561, the third and final informal interactive hearing was scheduled to take place on the margins of the 21st session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in April 2022. The possibility of convening the informal interactive hearing in a hybrid meeting had been considered, with the intent to fulfil the mandate given by the said resolution to the President of the General Assembly.

However, I have received a letter from the Temporary Committee for the Indigenous Coordinating Body for Enhanced Participation in the United Nations, as well as a supporting letter from the Chair of the Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Representative of Mexico, H.E. Mr. Juan Ramon de la Fuente, requesting the postponement of the informal interactive hearing to allow the broadest and inclusive participation of Indigenous Peoples and Member States. Copies of both letters are enclosed.

In this regard, I have the honour to enclose a **draft decision to postpone the informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples to the seventy-seventh session**. The draft decision, issued as A/76/L.51, will be presented for the consideration at the plenary meeting of the General Assembly under agenda item 71 entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples". The date of the plenary meeting will be announced through Plenary announcements on the e-deleGATE portal and in *United Nations Journal* in due course.

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

Abdulla Shahid

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York