January 2016

Friends,

The next consultation on how to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions (governments) at the United Nations will take place on January 30-February 1, 2017 at UN Headquarters in New York City. Indigenous peoples' representatives and UN member states are invited to provide their views on how to enable such participation.

The deadline to register is Wednesday, January 25. Indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions that wish to participate at the consultation must send an email to <u>indigenous_un@un.org</u> with the following initial information:

- 1. Name of the participant
- 2. Name of the organization/tribe and country
- 3. Email address

The <u>letter from the President of the General Assembly announcing the consultation</u> is attached, along with an updated elements paper based on views received at the previous consultation on December 14-15, 2016. Further information is available on the UN <u>website</u> and also on the Center's <u>website</u>. For your consideration, please also find attached a <u>short memo</u> by the Center on the topic, along with a more <u>detailed paper submitted in early 2016</u>. The submission was filed with the support of a number of tribes and organizations.

There will be additional consultations on February 27-28, and sometime during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues' session, April 24-May 5. It is vitally important that tribal governments speak for themselves and present their views directly to the UN and member states during these upcoming consultations. The results of these consultations are set to be finalized by the General Assembly before September, 2017, and will shape how indigenous governments will be able to participate at the UN for many years to come.

We hope you are able to join us or send a representative to at least one of the consultations. Please let us know if you plan to attend and how we can be helpful.

Best regards,

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