Friends,

Please find attached a <u>short report</u> we prepared from the Feb. 28 UN consultation on the participation of indigenous peoples' representative institutions at the United Nations. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss further any of the information in the report.

As a reminder, the final consultations on how to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions (governments) at the United Nations will take place on <u>Wednesday, April 26 (3pm-6pm)</u> and <u>Wednesday, May 3 (10am-1pm)</u>, at UN Headquarters in New York City. Indigenous peoples' representatives and UN member states are invited to provide their views on how to enable their participation.

The final consultations will take place during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues' annual session, and the organizers are requesting registration be completed through the Permanent Forum as follows:

- 1. For NGOs with ECOSOC Status, Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) and Academics that have participated at previous sessions of the Permanent Forum
  - First, review and update your contact details: <u>http://bit.ly/unpfii-updatecontact</u>
  - Register by **12 April 2017**: <u>http://bit.ly/unpfii16-register</u>
  - Forgot login details? <u>http://bit.ly/unpfii16-forgotpass</u>
- 2. For New IPOs and Academics participating for the first time at a session of the Permanent Forum
  - First, review our Participation Guide for New NGOs and Academics
  - For New IPOs, please visit the following website: <u>http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/new-ipos-en.html</u>
  - For New Academics, please visit the following website: <u>http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/new-academics-en.html</u>
  - Deadline for online application for approval: **31 March 2017**.
  - Please note that each organization is responsible for the registration of their individual representatives. Please contact us at: <u>indigenous\_un@un.org</u> and copy <u>ngo@un.org</u> for questions related to your participation.

At this time, neither the agenda nor the updated document for the consultation is available, but I will share that as soon as it is published. The previous document incorporating views received at the Jan. 31 consultation is <u>attached</u>, with the President of the General Assembly's introductory letter. 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.

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. After the April and May consultations, the text will be negotiated by UN member states, with a final text to be decided on and adopted by the General Assembly before September, 2017. The results of these consultations and negotiations 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.

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