FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES NAGPRA ISSUE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes’ leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (of Oklahoma), by Resolution 98-28, adopted on July 10, 1998, announced a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Policy Statement; and

WHEREAS, certain portions of this Policy Statement have been found to be in direct conflict with the interests of other tribes, including those of the USET member tribes; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the Policy Statement, the members of the USET Culture and Heritage Committee have attempted to reconcile the interests of USET, other tribes and the Five Civilized Tribes (of Oklahoma), to no avail; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of all tribes and their sovereignty for this matter to be resolved to the benefit of all concerned; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that it now becomes not only expedient but also urgent for the USET Board of Director to handle this matter directly with the leaders of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (of Oklahoma) and seek a resolution that is satisfactory to all concerned.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Board Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Houston, TX, Thursday, June 8, 2000.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"