

**Interactive Hearing for organization of the United Nations General Assembly High Level Plenary Meeting to be called the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (HLPM-WCIP)
Intervention by the International Indian Treaty Council, Assembly of First Nation, and the United Confederation of Taino People
Topic 1: Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,
Presented by Roberto Borrero, IITC and UCTP, June 17th, 2014**

Thank you Mr. Chairman and respectful greetings to the President of the General Assembly, United Nations experts and agencies, Indigenous Peoples and States delegations.

The International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) is a multi-regional Indigenous Peoples' Organization, founded 40 years ago this month and was the first to be in Consultative Status to ECOSOC in 1977. At the time IITC began working at the UN, Non-governmental organization status was a requirement for participation, even for those representing Indigenous Nations and governments. We look forward to correcting this continued and ongoing oversight in the outcome document currently under discussion.

We welcome this opportunity to engage in dialogue for the development of the outcome document for the High Level Plenary Meeting to be called the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (HLPM-WCIP). We strongly agree that it should focus on specific concrete actions to implement the rights of Indigenous Peoples in partnership with States and the UN system. In particular it should include specific mechanisms and processes to ensure the full and effective implementation of the inherent rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, UN Conventions and Covenants, and Nation-to-Nation Treaties concluded between States and Indigenous Peoples.

We support the Alta Outcome Document as the basis for the development of a concise and action oriented outcome document for the HLPM-WCIP, and appreciate that the core themes decided in Alta through a broad consensus process have been used to structure this discussion.

The Alta Outcome Document in its preamble calls for the full and non-discriminatory implementation of Self-Determination for Indigenous Peoples as a right that is "preeminent and... a prerequisite for the realization of all rights". 9 specific recommendations in three of its 4 theme areas specifically address implementation of this right. The UN Declaration in its preamble and Article 3, as well as its affirmation of the universal principle of non-discrimination in Articles 1 and 2, confirms that the right to Self-Determination must be recognized, affirmed and upheld for Indigenous Peoples consistent with the right recognized for ALL Peoples in Article 1 in common of the Human Rights Covenants. This must be affirmed as a core and cross-cutting principle in the preamble as well as in specific recommendations regarding monitoring and oversight in the outcome document which will be adopted at the HLPM-WCIP.

Thank you.