

DRAFT CLOSING STATEMENT

Mr Chairperson

I make this collective statement on behalf of the following Indigenous Peoples organisations.

We would like to thank all participants for their positive contributions during this IGC session, particularly where understanding and support is shown for Indigenous Peoples rights and interests.

We thank the Chairperson for his attention to procedures that assist our equitable participation in these meetings and hope that we can continue and build upon such participation in future meetings of the Intersessional Working Groups and Inter Governmental Committees.

We are concerned that in the discussions at this IGC the issue still continues with the lack of understanding of international norms regarding the human rights of Indigenous Peoples which has necessitated Indigenous Peoples' delegations taking the microphone at a number of stages to make reference to those rights.

We believe there should be better understanding in these meetings of these rights of Indigenous Peoples:

- Self-determination, including self-government or autonomy; and the right to development;
- Ownership of intellectual property and genetic resources;
- Participation in decision-making, including the principle of free, prior and informed consent;
- Resolution and adjudication of disputes and conflicts.

We are pleased that the Secretariat is to produce a Glossary of Terms, and expect that such a glossary will include these and other related terms, including the standards established in international law.

For Indigenous Peoples delegations to participate in WIPO deliberations and related discussions at the international level there must be capacity-building measures. In the first instance this requires financial commitments but also includes growth of our expertise in relation to the scope and function of WIPO and international trade in intellectual property.

Additionally it is clear that greater dialogue on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions needs to occur at the regional and domestic levels. It is presumptuous to claim that Indigenous Peoples rights and interests are protected at the community level and will be secured under domestic law once an international legal instrument is negotiated. States who come to these IGC and related meetings should be held accountable to their history and their current actions to protect Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge and their genetic resources.

We would ask that States consider the benefit of having appropriate representatives of Indigenous Peoples in their delegations. We recall that a number of States [Canada, Australia and Norway] have used this approach to positive results in the CBD negotiations.

In conclusion, we call upon States to donate generously to the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Voluntary Contributions Fund.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson