

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Twentieth Session
Geneva, February 22

**DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF THE INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES**

We, the International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples, gathered at the twentieth session of the IGC, after a constructive dialogue developed with the Chair and the Secretariat of the IGC, **have decided to reconsider the last paragraph of the Declaration that we presented on February 21** and to resume our participation in the negotiations of the IGC experts and delegates. Therefore, we present the following structural proposals with the aim of building a better way for our active and full participation as indigenous peoples and nations within the WIPO, the IGC and its working groups:

The International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples supports paragraph 8 of the second proposal of the document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/7 with the following amendment: the IGC should allow the participation of at least 2 indigenous delegates of the International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples within each drafting and facilitators group, at the different levels of the elaboration of IGC instruments. This would be an example of good will and good practices of the WIPO and of the IGC in regard with the indigenous peoples, as they have been applied in the Intercessional Working Groups 2 and 3 (WIG 2, WIG 3).

The registration of indigenous peoples to participate within the IGC must be direct and in conformity with other procedures of accreditation within the United Nations System.

The International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples recommends that they are considered as a category distinct from NGOs, of the representatives of industries and research institutions and proposes the creation of a specific category named: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES to be treated in equality with the States, recognizing our right to self-determination, in conformity with the development of the international law of protection of the indigenous peoples.

The International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples appeals to the mediation and the facilitation of the President of the IGC in order that the IGC, given the milestones of the international protection of indigenous peoples' rights enshrined in the Convention no. 169 of the ILO, Article 8j of the Biodiversity Convention, The UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Nagoya Protocol, and recommends that the General Assembly of the WIPO introduces future mechanisms which reinforce our full participation as indigenous peoples and as the International Forum of the Indigenous Peoples with full right of opinion and decision in future formal and informal sessions where WIPO and IGC instruments are adopted.