The Indigenous Peoples' Caucus Closing Statement to IGC-22

This statement is issued by the undersigned Indigenous Peoples' accredited Indigenous Peoples' organizations in support of this statement.

In spite of our repeated demands, and the recommendations of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, we are greatly disappointed that the IGC has not taken substantive and concrete steps to ensure the full, equal, and direct participation of Indigenous Peoples in WIPO processes that affect us.

We request that the UNPFII recommendations to WIPO be brought to the IGC in the form of a discussion document for action at the next IGC.

It must be expressed, for the sake of clarity on the part of states, that no Indigenous individuals have a mandate to negotiate on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus. Indigenous individuals can only speak for or negotiate on behalf of themselves, their own organizations, communities, and/or nations in IGC processes. The Indigenous Peoples' caucus has no standing for the purposes of negotiation in this forum.

Given that states have not addressed Indigenous Peoples' full and equal participation of Indigenous Peoples in the IGC processes adequately, this calls into question the legitimacy of the outcomes of the IGC processes.

We wish to transmit to the IGC that it must be known that we reserve all of our rights to every aspect of our cultural heritage including our Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, Indigenous Peoples' cultural expressions, and Indigenous Peoples' genetic/biological materials.

In addition, we request the Secretariat transmit all communications to all Indigenous Peoples accredited to the IGC in a fair and transparent manner, just as you do with member states.

Signed on July 13, 2012

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