

INTERNATIONAL NATIVE TRADITION INTERCHANGE

IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Manhattan, February 27th, 2018

EXPERT SEMINAR ON FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT

CIVIL SOCIETY SECTION

Office of the United Nations

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Study on the theme of Free, Prior and Informed Consent

The organization with the knowledge that Indigenous Territories were given to the Indigenous Peoples of Mother Earth by Creator at the beginning of all time states the following:

Territory for the Indigenous Peoples is a place to dwell and guard to secure and keep laws of origin that maintain balance of the existence of all Life forms. Indigenous Peoples are equal actors to any Nation within the United Nations and request that our status as Nations be validated to secure our Legitimate Representation within the United Nations system. We urge to elect an Ambassador for the over 400 million Indigenous Peoples of Mother Earth with a voice and a vote to represent our issues within the General Assembly and take our well over due place within the circle of Nations of Earth.

The organization therefore rejects the concept of FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED "CONSENT" as it is used as an international instrument to reduce our status as nations and violates our right to decide our own destiny without adequate consultation which includes our right to Say NO.

Furthermore, we stress that past practice of FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED "COSENT" has resulted in the use of this instrument to violate our self-determination, cultural integrity, equality, physical well-being, non-discrimination, property, economic and religious rights.

Our territories are not to be negotiated, occupied, taken, damaged, exploited, invaded, confiscated or managed by foreign entities in exchange for any restitution, remedy, reparation, relocation, monetary compensation or other redress. Free, Prior and Informed Consent is a crime against humanity as we are guardians of the natural world for all life forms. We are the keepers of Indigenous Peoples Traditional Knowledge, only medicine to heal this sick world.

In the Spirit.

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