



SEMILLA WARUNKWA

in consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council

May 9, 2024

CONTRIBUTION TO:

CALL FOR INPUT | OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Subject: Call for inputs existing procedures on the participation of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations, highlighting existing gaps and good practices.

Submitted by: Claudia Velandia-Onofre

Via: requesens@un.org

[Input for Report: To be presented to the Human Rights Council during its fifty-seventh session taking place from 9 September 2024 to 9 October 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland]

Evoking:

Article 18 – Which affirms Indigenous Peoples' right to participate in decision-making in matters that affect their rights through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures and to maintain and develop their own Indigenous decision-making institutions.

Article 41 – Which calls on the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to establish ways and means of ensuring participation of Indigenous Peoples on issues affecting them.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY 101

LECTURE NOTES

1. Introduction to Philosophy

2. The Nature of Reality

3. Knowledge and Truth

4. Ethics and Moral Philosophy

5. Political Philosophy

6. The Philosophy of Language

PHILOSOPHY 101

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Greetings,

On behalf of SEMILLA WARUNKWA, Indigenous Peoples organization from the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta, Colombia in consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council we welcome and respond to the above call for input.

We Indigenous Peoples since 1923 have approached the United Nations to defend our rights. When our brother Deskaheh, Chief of the Haudenosaunee's League: [the Mohawk, the Oneida, the Onondaga, the Cayuga, the Seneca and the Tuscarora] was denied entry in Geneva he exhorted for Indigenous Peoples to "Defend our rights as the white man defends his own."

Globally Indigenous Peoples have been making recommendations to member states for decades, recommendations that are vital not only for Indigenous Peoples but to humanity and all life forms on Mother Earth as a whole. We have been actively raising our voices due to the urgency of our times and space.

Although we are targeted, we still feel the responsibility to protect and defend all while we continuously must continue to fight for our survival. Our question remains what has happened to all our recommendations? they appear to just be noted, documented yet ignored and not acted on.

Our Peoples continue to actively join, participate, denounce and recommend voicing internationally the various attacks of ongoing systematic genocide and human rights violations against our Peoples. There should be no reprisals or fear for this. However, we are prosecuted, expelled and criminalized. Indigenous defenders are murdered, and our families also pay with their lives as we continue to make recommendations for our rightful place and existence in and out of our ancestral territories.

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We have below recommendations and invite to the creation of a mechanisms that assists and truly bring this process to life.

1. The violation of the rights of Indigenous Peoples must be actively echoed by all member states and penalized, as a mandate. A route is recommended to provide immediate protection, legal and funding assistance and retaliation monitor systems.
2. It is recommended to advance public policies that guarantee human rights of Indigenous Peoples who have suffered forced migration because today it is the existence of the seeds of life and youth that are being exterminated not only culturally but also physically.
3. Enhanced participation process of Indigenous Peoples is urgent and must be activated at all levels.

We Indigenous Peoples are Sovereign and Autonomous Nations and request to have our seat at the highest possible level within the United Nations system.

Our input to this report is submitted due to the imminent and crucial need of steadily moving forward and towards an enhanced mechanism which integrates the voices and active leading participation of Indigenous Peoples at the HRC - not just be part of documentations and reports.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued dedication the participation of Indigenous Peoples.



Claudia Velandia-Onofre

International Liaison

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