



General Assembly Third Committee (SOCHUM)

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AGENDA: Ensuring the Rights of Indigenous Minorities in the Face of Environmental Crises

SPONSORS: Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Israel, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Israel, Japan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Vietnam

SIGNATORIES:

MAIN SUBMITTER: Russian Federation

Resolution 0001 (2024)

Adopted by YMUN 2024 at its 16th meeting, on 21 January 2024

GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIRD COMMITTEE,

Noting that “all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights,” as stated in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Keeping in mind that Article 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him”,

Recognizing that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR, 1976) respects the right to life,

Expressing that the government has a moral obligation to respect and protect the autonomy of the indigenous communities and their citizens at all times,

Promoting the principle of FPIC in 8 decision-making processes, ensuring that indigenous communities are consulted and have the right to approve or reject projects that may impact their lands or resources,

Clarifying the need for situational interference from respective governments in indigenous communities in cases pertaining to safety and general well-being,

1. Highly Recommends for governments to utilize the Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) forum between local indigenous minorities and governmental entities for the purpose of facilitating communication on matters of climate change policies through ways such as but not limited to;
 - a. discussing the utilization of indigenous knowledge in governmental climate change policies to ensure the sustainability of such policies,
 - b. encouraging the direct communication with indigenous representatives considering the unique perspectives of indigenous communities that an external figure may not be able to accurately express,
 - c. utilizing third-parties for the purpose of an objective viewpoint such as;
 - i. Cultural Survival, Survival International, among others,
 - ii. Minority Rights Group International,
 - d. adding the positive relationship between environmental conservation and the preservation of indigenous cultural identities as an agenda on the forum for the purpose of reiterating the intricate relationship between these two factors;
2. Urges governments to ensure practical political representation of indigenous minorities with efficacy in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. encouraging political discussions to include delegates of indigenous minorities by providing indigenous communities' representative with a specific political status,
 - b. ensuring an indigenous representative in discussions regarding environmental policies that directly affect the livelihoods of indigenous minorities,
 - c. spreading awareness on the lack of actual political representation of indigenous groups despite their grave vulnerability and direct impact on and from environmental policies through the usage of media platforms and physical campaigns;
3. Invites governments and indigenous communities to form a joint consensus on governmental intervention in cases of natural disasters and environmental crises through ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. creating objective standards of situations in which governmental intervention can be enacted upon,
 - b. leaving the ultimate decision of evacuation to the indigenous communities considering the cultural lifestyles of indigenous communities and their relationship with surrounding environments,

- c. promoting freedom over sectors which does not go against indigenous communities, including:
 - i. the respect for their traditional practices and lives,
 - ii. cultural and spiritual identity,
 - iii. political autonomy within their territory,
 - d. encouraging member states to exercise full rights to decide on the terms of intervention for indigenous communities based on specific country's desires by granting full autonomy to the country's governments to decide on the necessity of intervention;
4. Encourages governments to mitigate indigenous practices that may be deemed harmful to the environment to a certain extent including but not limited to:
- a. dangerous usage from tribes towards wildlife resources such as but not limited to:
 - i. overfishing and overhunting,
 - ii. hunting endangered species,
 - iii. overly mining or the excessive extraction of underground resources including oil,
 - b. rituals and traditional practices in the wildlife environment made by traditional tribes which result in diverse issues due to unsustainable land usage that include results such as but not limited to:
 - i. deforestation,
 - ii. soil degradation caused by a multitude of irresponsible usage of wildlife and other natural resources especially amongst arable terrain.