



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Estados Unidos de América

Organización de los Estados Americanos

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Washington D.C., October 22, 2010

Dear representatives of the indigenous peoples of the Americas,

The Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States presents its compliments on behalf of the Chair of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and takes this opportunity to invite you to participate in the Thirteenth Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus, pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2565 (XL-O/10).

The Meeting of Negotiations will take place at OAS Headquarters in Washington, D.C., next January 18 to 20. It will be preceded by a meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus, to be held on January 15 to 16, 2011.

Individuals selected are required to be in Washington, D.C., between Friday, January 14 and Saturday, January 22, 2011.

In order to ensure the effective participation of the representatives of the indigenous peoples, the Department of International Law is advising you that the deadline for applications to be considered by the Selection Board in order to participate in the Meeting of Negotiations is **Friday, October 29, 2010, at 1:00 PM** (Washington, D.C. time).

In accordance with CP/RES. 951 (1691/09), which regulates "the Specific Fund to Support the Elaboration of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," **your community or organization should submit a letter addressed to the Department of International Law along with the all the documents requested in Appendix I to this Convocation.** The application should be prepared by the organization and the candidate together as there are requirements for both parties, but all documents should be sent in only once.



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Please remember that the letter of application should include the characteristics of the organization, its establishment, membership, the objectives and profile of the work it undertakes within its communities, and its national leadership (no more than half a page).

The documents must be sent via fax (202.458.3293) or as an attachment emailed to the Department of International Law (valonso@oas.org). **Please note that applications received after 1:00 PM on October 29, 2010 (Washington, D.C. time) will not be considered by the Selection Board of the Specific Fund.** It is imperative for the established deadlines to be respected to allow the necessary time for processing of visas, purchasing of tickets, and hotel reservations.

To assist you in your application and participation, we are sending in APPENDIX I the list of requirements along with the corresponding sample documents. Included in APPENDIX II, meanwhile, are the documents related to the negotiation process on the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Sincerely,

Luis Toro Utillano
Senior Legal Officer
Department of International Law
Secretariat for Legal Affairs