

COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Working Group to Prepare
the Draft American Declaration on
the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

REPORT ON EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
IN CONNECTION WITH THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE
THE DRAFT AMERICAN DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

(Document prepared by the Department of International Law)

1. Background

Pursuant to the General Assembly mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 2368 (XXXVIII-O/08), the last Special Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples was held at OAS headquarters from December 9 to 12, 2008. As usual, the meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus from December 6 to 8, 2008.

Presiding over the Special Meeting was the Chair of the Working Group, Ambassador Reynaldo Cuadros, Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the OAS. There were 101 participants at the meeting, including 80 representatives of the organized indigenous peoples in the Caucus. There were 23 people present who had received Specific Fund support.

The Department of International Law hereby submits a report on the participation of the indigenous representatives and the current status of the Specific Fund to Support the Preparation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Department of International Law would like to avail itself of this opportunity to thank, first and foremost, the donor countries, without whose contributions to the Specific Fund this meeting could not have been held. These donors were: France, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Spain.

2. Convocation and selection of representatives

The convocation to take part in the Special Meeting was publicized extensively in the countries of the Americas, at the request of the Department of International Law, through the office of the OAS General Secretariat in each country and, at the request of the Chair of the Working Group, through the permanent representatives of the member states.

The Department of International Law set Thursday, **October 30, 2008** as the deadline for receipt of candidacies for Specific Fund benefits. Sixty-three candidacies were received from 58

organizations in 21 member states. The Selection Board of the Specific Fund to Support the Preparation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples met on November 6, 2008 to consider and approve the list of the representatives and indigenous leaders who would participate with grants under the aforementioned Specific Fund.

The Selection Board comprised the Chair of the Working Group, Ambassador Reynaldo Cuadros Anaya, Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the OAS; the Vice Chairs of the Working Group: Danilo González, Alternate Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS and María Eugenia de los Ríos, Alternate Representative of Venezuela to the OAS; Azelene Inacio, Representative for South America; José Carlos Morales, Representative for Central America and the Caribbean; and Beverley Jacobs, Representative for North America.

Pursuant to OAS Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 873 (1459/04), which governs the operations of the Specific Fund to Support the Preparation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, after considering all the candidacies submitted by the indigenous organizations of the OAS member states, the Board selected the following representatives:

1. Argentina: Sandra Paineofilu
2. Barbados: Damon Gerard Corrie
3. Bolivia: Ramiro Galindo Chávez.
4. Bolivia: Alejandro Chipana Yahuita.
5. Brazil: Ubiratán de Souza Maia.
6. Canada: Annick Dauphinais.
7. Chile: María Teresa Huentequeo.
8. Colombia: Jaime Enrique Arias Arias.
9. Costa Rica: Alancay Morales Garro
10. Dominica: Charles Williams
11. Ecuador: Raúl Ilaquiche Licta.
12. Ecuador: Teresa Jimbicti Pandama
13. El Salvador: Félix Ramos Guzmán.
14. United States: Liselote Naniki Reyes Ocasio.
15. Guatemala: Carlos Chex
16. Guatemala: Manuela Ixtos Cotiy
17. Honduras: Edgardo Benitez Maclin
18. Mexico: Adelfo Regino Montes.
19. Nicaragua: Roy Wislat Saires.
20. Panama: Héctor Huertas Gonzáles.
21. Paraguay: Alberto Vásquez Ayala.
22. Peru: Heraclio Hugo Tacuri Huamani.
23. Peru: Irinea Bardales Díaz.
24. Suriname: Aloema Tokoe Josien.

It should be noted that initially the Selection Board proceeded to elect one indigenous representative per country. Then, taking into account the density of the indigenous population, it selected a second representative for Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Peru.

In addition, at the above-mentioned meeting, it was decided that the participation expenses of the indigenous members of the Selection Board (the representative for Central America and the

Caribbean, the representative for North America, and the representative for South America) would be defrayed by the Specific Fund, as in the past. The Selection Board also supported the decision to finance the participation of Mr. James Anaya, United Nations **Special Rapporteur** on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. Although 28 people were selected to take part in the Special Meeting, five of them were unable to accept the invitation for various reasons (the special guest, Mr. James Anaya; the North American Representative, Ms. Beverley Jacobs; and three indigenous representatives). That is why, in the end, there were 23 people whose attendance was financed by this Fund.

To keep communication channels open, the OAS Department of International Law prepared two Information Bulletins – No. 14 (GT/DADIN/doc.355/08 rev. 1) and N° 15 (GT/DADIN/doc.355/08 rev. 1) – and kept all the information on the meeting permanently up to date on the Department’s website:

http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/indigenas_grupo_de_trabajo_sesion_de_trabajo_2008.htm

3. OUTLAYS

Following is a summary by the Department of International Law of the main executed budget items. Total expenditure amounted to US\$82,034.82. Of that, air fares accounted for US\$28,447.07 and travel insurance US\$363. Per diem and terminal expenses, together, totaled US\$12,340.

The cost of luncheons hosted by the Department of International Law during the three days of meetings of the Indigenous Caucus was US\$848.75. The Department of International Law would also like to thank the following sponsors who kindly and generously financed additional lunches and a reception: The missions of Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Mexico, and Spain and the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA).

The indigenous representatives financed by the Specific Fund were lodged at the State Plaza Hotel because of its proximity to the venue of the meetings. This meant that the representatives were able to cover the distance on foot, obviating the need for additional transportation. The cost of the 13 rooms reserved was US\$17,819.

Another expenditure item incurred by the Department of International Law was the cost of interpretation and translation services, in the amount of US\$7,848.44. There were also expenses related to professional and administrative support services, totaling US\$13,581. The cost of use of conference rooms was US\$650, and US\$105.95 were spent on telephone calls in preparation for the meeting. The following Table provides a breakdown of expenditure:

WG/DADIN SPECIAL MEETING 2008 BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE BY ITEMS

TYPE OF EXPENDITURE	TOTAL
Air fares:	28,447.07
Per diem and terminal expenses:	12,340.00
Hotel:	17,819.00
Food:	848.75
Interpretation and translation services:	7,848.44
Professional and administrative support:	13,581.00

Travel insurance:	363.00
Use of Conference Rooms:	650.00
Telephone:	105.95
	82,002.26

The updated current balance of the Specific Fund is US\$66,448.64, which includes the balances on the following accounts:

Name on the account	Deposits received	Executed	Balance at 01.26.09
FRANC07/01	11,700.90	8,114.11	3,586.79
FRANC08/02	12,384.61	8,552.53	3,832.08
MEXIC08/04	30,403.58	25,988.33	4,415.25
NICAR08/02	1,000.00	560.00	440.00
SPAIN 06/02 WG/DADIN:	92,994.38	38,819.85	54,174.53
TOTALS:	148,483.47	82,034.82	66,448.64

Disbursement of a Spain Fund amount is expected. It will provide the funding needed to hold a future meeting.

Finally, the Department of International Law wishes to repeat its invitation to visit our website, where you will find information on the outcomes of the Special Meeting or of all the meetings held by the Working Group:

http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/indigenas_grupo_de_trabajo_sesion_de_trabajo_2008.htm

Thank you for your attention. We remain at your disposal to answer any concerns you may have regarding the financing of the above-mentioned Special Meeting.