

AG/RES. 2294 (XXXVII-O/07)

AMERICAN DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 1022 (XIX-O/89), AG/RES. 1479 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1549 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1610 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1708 (XXX-O/00), AG/RES. 1780 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1851 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1919 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2029 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2073 (XXXV-O/05), and AG/RES. 2234 (XXXVI-O/06); and

HAVING SEEN the report of the Chair of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on the activities carried out in 2006 and 2007 (GT/DADIN/doc.307/07 corr. 1) and the holding of the Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Meetings of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm that the adoption of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples remains a priority for the Organization of American States (OAS), emphasizing the importance of full and effective participation by the indigenous peoples in preparing the draft Declaration.

2. To renew the mandate of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to continue holding its meetings of negotiations in the quest for points of consensus, so as to complete the drafting of the Declaration, on the basis of the "Record of the Current Status of the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" (GT/DADIN/doc.301/07) and taking into account the "Compendium of Proposals of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus Held by the Working Group" (GT/DADIN/doc.255/06 rev. 2 and add. 1) and other pertinent documents of the Working Group.

3. To request the Permanent Council to instruct the Working Group to:

- a. Hold a special two-day meeting at OAS headquarters in September or October 2007 and before scheduling the Eleventh Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus, in order to engage in a process of reflection regarding the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The outcomes and recommendations of the two-day meeting of the Working Group will be presented the day after that meeting to a special meeting of the Permanent Council by the Chair of the Working Group and the leaders of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus. The Permanent Council will consider those recommendations on how to strengthen the negotiation process in the presence of representatives of the indigenous peoples;

- b. Hold up to three meetings of negotiations of up to five days each, between October 2007 and March 2008, at least one of which shall be held at OAS headquarters;
- c. Continue to take the appropriate measures to ensure continuing transparency of, and effective participation by representatives of indigenous peoples in, the negotiation meetings in the quest for points of consensus; and
- d. Emphasize the need to reach compromise solutions that are attentive to the most pressing concerns of the indigenous peoples and to the needs of all member states, in the preparation of the Draft Declaration.

4. To request the Selection Board of the Specific Fund to continue to work according to the principles established in resolution CP/RES. 873 (1459/04), "Amendments to the Specific Fund to Support the Preparation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," so as to ensure greater transparency, and to provide more information in its report on the specific reason(s) for choosing each beneficiary, ensuring that the assessments made are detailed and specific.

5. To thank Government and people of Bolivia for the successful organization of the Tenth Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus.

6. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, its Special Rapporteurship on Indigenous Peoples, the Summits Secretariat, the Office of International Law of the Department of International Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization, and the Secretary General to continue to lend their valuable support to the process of drafting the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and to thank them for their ongoing contributions to that process.

7. To request the Permanent Council to follow up on this resolution, which will be implemented within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources, and to present a report on its implementation to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.