



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28 September 2016

Dear Representative of Indigenous Peoples,

I refer to the letter dated 18 February, 2016 from the President of the 70th Session of the General Assembly, appointing Advisors to assist him in the consultation process concerning the ways to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them.

I wish to inform you that I have reconfirmed the appointment of the two Advisors from the Members States – H.E. Mr. Kai Sauer, Permanent Representative of Finland and H.E. Mrs. Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, Permanent Representative of Ghana, as well as the two Advisors from indigenous peoples – Dr. Claire Winfield Ngamihi Charters from the Pacific region and Dr. James Anaya from the North America region.

Pursuant to the General Assembly Resolution 70/232 of 23 December 2015, the Advisors conducted timely, inclusive, representative and transparent consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world, and existing relevant mechanisms of the United Nations. On this basis, the President of General Assembly at its 70<sup>th</sup> Session in his letter dated 8 July, 2016 circulated the compilation of the views expressed during these consultations, and included concrete recommendations on the way forward, which was subsequently issued in the document A/70/990. In accordance with the above mentioned resolution, the compilation should form the basis for a draft text to be finalized and adopted by the Assembly during its current session.

I have the honour to invite you to participate in the first informal launch briefing which will take place on Monday, 3 October 2016 from 4pm-6pm in the Conference Room 1. I will be joined by the four aforementioned Advisors who will inform you about the next steps and invite participants to provide inputs on how to take this process forward and answer any questions.

Representatives from indigenous peoples' organizations that wish to attend the briefing of 3<sup>rd</sup> October are invited to register providing the following information:

- Name(s) of individual(s) who will attend;
- Name of organization;
- A brief description of the organization, including its objectives, activities and which indigenous peoples the organization represents or works for.

This information should be sent to [indigenous\\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) by 10 AM New York time on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Further information on this process will be posted on  
[www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/participation-of-indigenous-peoples-at-the-united-nations.html](http://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/participation-of-indigenous-peoples-at-the-united-nations.html)  
as more information becomes available.

The briefing will also be streamed at the United Nations Webcast, available on  
[www.webtv.un.org](http://www.webtv.un.org).

I wish to express my thanks to the Advisors for kindly accepting my invitation to carry out this responsibility, and I trust that you will extend to them your full cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Thomson

To All Representatives of Indigenous Peoples