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Организация
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Communication and Information Sector
Knowledge Societies Division

Regional Representative of
Indigenous Peoples

Ref. : CI/KSD/UAP/2018/IKB/090 5 April 2018

Subject: Establishment of the Steering Committee for the organization of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages

Dear Regional Representative of Indigenous Peoples,

I am pleased to inform you that UNESCO is facilitating the organization of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages, which is a follow up to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (Ref.: A/RES/71/178) on "Rights of Indigenous Peoples" proclaimed in December 2016.

For the preparation of the Action Plan for the International Year, UNESCO organized three consultative meetings in 2017 with a number of interested stakeholders in New York, Geneva and Paris. This Action Plan is an official document of the upcoming 17th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) to be discussed on 16th April 2018.

One of the working modalities of the International Year proposed in the Action Plan is the establishment of the Steering Committee composed of:

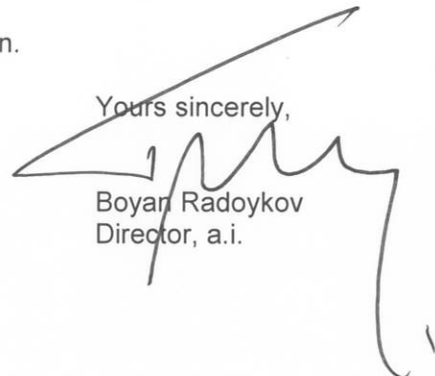
- Regional representatives of Indigenous Peoples and organizations,
- Member States,
- Representatives of three Party Mechanism including the Chair of the UNPFII, The Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and representative of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), and
- UN represented by UNESCO and UNDESA.

Therefore, we kindly invite you to nominate one regional representative of Indigenous Peoples (in total, seven from socio-cultural regions) and communicate the names and their contact details, who would be nominated to represent Indigenous Peoples as the members of the Steering Committee. The first Steering Committee meetings is planned from 13.00 pm. to 15.00 p.m. on 19 April 2018 at UNESCO Office in New York.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your participation by sending an email to Ms Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg at i.kasinskaite@unesco.org by 15 April 2018.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Boyan Radoykov
Director, a.i.