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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE

Twelfth Session
Geneva, February 25 to 29, 2008

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PANEL OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Document prepared by the Secretariat

BACKGROUND

1. At its seventh session, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore ('the Committee') agreed "that, immediately before the commencement of the sessions of the Committee, half-day panel presentations should be organised, chaired by a representative from a local or indigenous community".

2. These panels have since been organized for each Committee session convened since 2005, namely the eighth to the twelfth sessions. Representatives of the following organizations and the following individuals took part in a personal capacity. Almost all were directly funded by WIPO in their capacity as expert speakers. Several others were funded through the WIPO Voluntary Fund since it came into operation at the tenth session, and this has increased as the Fund has become fully established. The panels generally represent the seven geo-cultural regions recognized by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

- Arts Law Centre, Woolloomooloo
- Assembly of First Nations
- Bangla Academy
- *Bindeku/Kamaneku*, Papua New Guinea
- Brazilian Indigenous Intellectual Property Institute (INBRAPI)
- *Centro de Culturas Indias del Perú* (CHIRAPAQ)
- Creator's Rights Alliance
- Dr. Ikechi Mgbeoji
- Ermineskin Cree Nation
- *Federacion de Organizaciones Artesanales Ngöbe-Buglé* (FORANB)
- Indigenous Movement for Peace Advancement and Conflict Transformation (IMPACT)
- Indigenous Peoples' Biodiversity Network (IPBN)
- Indonesian Traditional Wisdom Network
- Inuit Circumpolar Conference
- Kaingang Community
- Kaska Nation
- Kichwa, Ecuador
- Laikipia Maasai, North Central Kenya
- Maasai Cultural Heritage Foundation (MCHF)
- National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (Philippines)
- National Cultural Commission, Papua New Guinea
- Pauktutit Inuit Women of Canada
- Quechua, Peru
- Research and Support of Indigenous Peoples of Crimea Foundation
- Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)
- Saami Council
- Senior Chieftainess Nkomeshya Mukamambo II, Zambia
- Sustainable Development Policy Institute
- Torres Strait Islanders
- Tsimshian community of Kitasoo-Xai'xais Nation
- Tulalip Tribes
- United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Vanuatu Cultural Centre.

The panel presentation for the twelfth session has been organized in a manner similar to the panel presentations on TCEs/folklore at the fourth session of the Committee and on TK at the fifth session, as well as the first three panels in this series, which were convened at the eighth, ninth and tenth sessions.

DRAFT PROGRAM FOR PANEL SESSION

Theme:

Indigenous and Local Community Initiatives in Protecting Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources: Applying the Practical Lessons of Community Experience

Provisional program:

Monday, February 25, 2008

10.00 – 10.10 Opening

10.10 – 11.20 First session:

Mr. Albert Deterville, Indigenous People (Bethechilokono) of Saint Lucia Governing Council (BCG)

Mr. Mana Cracknell, Hokotehi Moriori Trust

Mrs. Fawsia Yousif Glaleldin, The Sudanese Association for Archiving Knowledge (SUDAAK)

Ms. Margaret Raven, Desert Knowledge CRC

11.20 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 13.00 Second session:

Mr Victor Steffensen, Kuku Thaypan Traditional Knowledge project

Mrs. Neeti Mahanti, Jigyansu Tribal Research Center (JTRC)

Mr. Rodion Sulyandziga, Raipon

Mr. Santiago Obispo, Red de Cooperación Amazónica (Redcam), Venezuela

Floor discussion

13.00 Closing of panel

Suggested talking points for panelists

Nature of TK/TCEs/GR

Outline the nature of traditional knowledge (TK) and/or traditional cultural expressions (TCEs), as well as related genetic resources (GR), that are held by your community, and their importance to the cultural identity, community life, and sustainable relationship with the environment of your community.

Customary law and practices

Describe the role of customary law, practices and protocols in sustaining and safeguarding your TK/TCEs and related GR.

Misappropriation and misuse

Describe, from your community's perspective, practical experiences with misappropriation and misuse of TK/TCEs/GR, including concerns about lack of external understanding of and respect for customary law and community values.

Community responses

Outline your community's responses to the problem of misappropriation and community initiatives to safeguard and sustain TK/TCEs/GR, including practical, legal, educational, and social responses.

Needs and expectations

Outline the needs and expectations of your community, within national system and beyond, including within the international community.

Lessons for the Intergovernmental Committee

Based on your community's experience, needs and expectations, what should the Committee pay most attention to in its work; and how can its work better meet the needs and expectations of your community?

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