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We appreciate the support of Member States in financing the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the Diplomatic Conference on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge. However, we regret the absence of Indigenous Peoples at the last WIPO diplomatic conference in Riyadh, where traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions, and genetic resources were negotiated without our consent.

In 2012, the topics of traditional cultural expressions, traditional knowledge, and genetic resources were segmented, despite the fact that Indigenous Peoples have always insisted that our knowledge systems are holistic and indivisible.

We hope that consolidating a single text on traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions will help correct this mistake, which reflects the imposition of colonial language on the seven cultural regions of the world.

Finally, we trust that what was achieved at the 2024 Assembly regarding the financing of Indigenous Peoples within the multilateral system will not be an exception, but rather the beginning of an international practice based on the implementation of Article 41 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

We expect support from the States that have publicly expressed, at the highest executive level, their commitment to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, such as Colombia and Mexico. Likewise, we hope that all countries that have signed ILO Convention 169, both from the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) and from Europe, Africa, and Asia, will support our effective participation in the negotiations.

Thank you for listening.