

**SYMPOSIUM ON "INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AT THE UNITED NATIONS:
FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF THE FIRST DELEGATES TO THE EMPOWERMENT
OF THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS"**

Salle XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva, 10-13 September 2013

Tuesday, September 10 - OPENING DAY - Room XVI UN Palais des Nations

- 9 - 11 am Plenary session: Opening thanksgiving. Presentation of all participants and finalization of preparations for the official ceremony.
- 11 am - 12:30 pm Opening ceremony: with the Swiss and Genevan authorities. Speeches by the following individuals (to be confirmed):
- **Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev**, Director General of the United Nations Office in Geneva
 - **Mr Pierre Maudet**, Minister of the Canton of Geneva
 - **Ambassador Alexandre Fasel**, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations (UNOG)
 - **Ms Edith Ballantyne**, representative of the organizing committee of NGOs of the 1977 Conference and founding member of Docip
 - Spiritual ceremony by indigenous First Delegates
 - Reading by First Delegate Bill Means of all the names of the delegates present in 1977 and silent screening of the archives of the entry into the UN and of the 1977 Conference
 - Opening remarks by **Members of the Organizing Committee of the Symposium**: Chiefs and First Delegates Oren Lyons and Willie Littlechild, First Delegates Bill Means, José Carlos Morales and Mike Myers, and Historian Carlos Mamani
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Lunch offered provided by the Swiss Government
- Afternoon session**
- 2 pm Plenary session: Development of the working method. Election of the chairperson, the secretariat for the proceedings of the plenary sessions and Debates, and a contact person for Docip
- 2:30 - 4 pm Historical accounts by Chief and First Delegate **Oren Lyons**, "From Deskaheh at the League of Nations in 1924 to the Conference at the United Nations in 1977", Chief and First Delegate **Willie Littlechild** "The Treaties between Indigenous Nations and the State" and by First Delegate **Bill Means** "The context of 1977, including the context of the Cold War and its impact on the 1977 Conference".
- 4 - 4:30 pm Coffee break
- 4:30 - 6 pm Contributions and discussions on the part of other First Delegates on the situation and expectations of indigenous peoples before and during the 1977 Conference
- 6 - 6:30 pm Speech of the Chairperson on the need to heal wounds; closing thanksgiving
- 7 pm Dinner at John Knox Centre
- Informal exchange among youth and First Delegates; filming of interviews, particularly with First Delegates who will not interviewed in their community.

Wednesday, September 11 - UN Room XVI UN Palais des Nations

- 9 am Plenary Session: Opening thanksgiving. Summary of the previous day's discussions
- 9:30 - 10 am The process of promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples at the UN: from 1977 to today, by First Delegate **José Carlos Morales**
- 10 - 10:30 am Screening of the video with Don Augusto Willemsen-Diaz, Human Rights

	Center Officer in 1977. Discussion on his key role
10:30 - 11 am	Coffee break
11 am	<u>Debates</u> : The role of NGOs and international organizations in the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples : accomplishments, failures and examples of successful practices
12:30 pm	Lunch in the UN cafeteria
Afternoon session	
2 - 3 pm	Presentation and screening of videos on indigenous women activists
3 - 4:30 pm	<u>Debates</u> : The role of women in the protection and advancement of the indigenous peoples' rights
4:30 - 5 pm	Coffee break
5 - 6:30 pm	<u>Debates</u> : The role of spirituality in the protection and advancement of the indigenous peoples' rights
6:30 pm	Closing thanksgiving
7 pm	Dinner at John Knox
	Informal exchange among youth and First Delegates; filming of interviews particularly with First Delegates who will not interviewed in their community.

Thursday, September 12 - UN Room XVI UN Palais des Nations

Morning session

9 am	<u>Plenary session</u> : Opening thanksgiving. Summary of the previous day's discussions. Environmental conditions in North America since 1977, by First Delegate Mike Myers
10 am - 10:30 am	Coffee break
10:30 - 13:00 am	<u>Debates</u> : Contributions and discussions on the part of other First Delegates on the environmental conditions in their respective regions
1 pm	Lunch in the UN cafeteria

Afternoon session

2:30 - 4 pm	<u>Debates</u> : Evaluation of the situation of the indigenous peoples in the world and the role of the UN: accomplishments, failures and examples of successful practices
4 - 4:30 pm	Coffee break
4:30 - 5:00 pm	<u>Debates</u> : Evaluation of the situation of the indigenous peoples in the world and the role of the UN: recommendations for the future
5 - 6:30 pm	Discussion on how to involve the youth in the process
6:30 pm	Closing thanksgiving
7:00 pm	Dinner at John Knox International Reformed Centre
	Informal exchange among youth and First Delegates; filming of interviews particularly with First Delegates who will not interviewed in their community.

Friday, September 13

Morning session - UN

9:30 am - 11:30 am	<u>Plenary session</u> : Opening thanksgiving. Final preparations for Friday's reception at Geneva's City Hall.
	Establishment of the Declaration of the Symposium
11:30 am	Coffee break, interviews
11:45 am - 1 pm	Establishment of the Declaration of the Symposium
1 - 2 pm	Lunch in the UN cafeteria

Afternoon session

2-5pm	Establishment of the Declaration of the Symposium and conclusions.
-------	--

6 - 8:30 pm

Reception at Geneva City Hall, Palais Eynard offered by the Executive Council of the City of Geneva. Group photo is organized as a remake of the 1999 photo.

- **Welcome remarks by Ms Sandrine Salerno, Mayor of Geneva**

- **Spiritual ceremony by indigenous First Delegates**

- **Reading by First Delegate Bill Means** of all the names of the delegates present in 1977 and silent screening of the 1977 archives, recording the entry of indigenous peoples into the United Nations in Geneva

- First Delegate from Mesoamerica/South America explains the importance of their presence at the UN and of their reception by Switzerland and Geneva

- First Delegate from another region explains the importance of their presence at the UN and of their reception by Switzerland and Geneva

- Speech by a youth delegate of how he/she will share the experience of the First Delegates in his/her region.

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Dinner and informal dialogue with the public

8:30 pm

Closing thanksgiving

Saturday, September 14 - Free day and tour of the city - John Knox Centre

Morning

Rest and filming, including interviews with First Delegates who will not be interviewed in their homeland

Lunch at John Knox International Reformed Centre

Afternoon

Tour of the city and shopping with volunteers

Continuation of interviews with those First Delegates who will not be interviewed in their community

Dinner and farewell gathering at John Knox

Closing thanksgiving of the Symposium

Sunday, September 15 - John Knox Centre

Departure of First Delegates

Viewing of camera shots; selection of images for the awareness-raising video.

Recommendations on how to film in the communities

Monday, September 16 - John Knox Centre

Departure of youth delegates

The official ceremonies and reception, as well as the side event and plenary sessions, will be interpreted into English, Spanish and French.