

**Opening Statement of Indigenous Peoples Major Group for the CSD18 Review Session
03 May 2010**

Thanks Mr. Chair. Allow us to warmly greet everyone; and look forward for a healthy interactive dialogue during this CSD18 review session.

Last week, the 9th Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) which addressed the theme "Development with Culture and Identity" was concluded. We, Indigenous Peoples from all over the world, discussed most of the serious concerns and urgent challenges that we face today, which are very relevant for the CSD18 review sessions.

As, Indigenous Peoples, we continue to practice more sustainable ways of living characterized by a development model with small ecological footprints underpinned by our indigenous values such as reciprocity, diversity, solidarity, accountability, and harmony with Mother Earth.

Yet, our collective rights embedded in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are still not respected and protected by many States. The model of sustainable development needs to be reviewed.

We therefore appeal to the States, civil societies and all key players to seriously review the failures in implementing sustainable development and address the structural causes of these failures. We also appeal to States that in undertaking actions to address the themes of this session, the UNDRIP should be used as one of the underpinning instruments.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.