

「先住民族サミット」アイヌモシリ2008  
Indigenous Peoples Summit in Ainu Mosir 2008  
Ainumosir otta Hoski wano Okay Utar Ukoytak 2008



**An Appeal to the Japanese Government from the Indigenous Peoples Summit in Ainu Mosir 2008**

As Indigenous Peoples of the world, together with United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues Chairperson Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, we have gathered here in Ainu Mosir (Hokkaido) in advance of the Hokkaido Toyako Summit, to draft this Appeal to the Japanese Government. As representatives of the Indigenous Peoples of the world, we hereby affirm that Ainu people are an Indigenous People of Japan, and strongly support the vote by the House of Councillors and House of Representatives in favor of the resolution recognizing the Ainu people as an Indigenous People of Japan which was adopted by the Japanese Government.

The Japanese Government, which recognized Ainu as an Indigenous People of Japan, should consider developing legislation at the governmental level, in order to promptly implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People which the Japanese Government itself voted in favor of on September 13, 2007. First of all, the Japanese Government should reflect on its previous Ainu policies, and should issue an official apology to the Ainu people in clear language in a public forum.

We cannot accept the current situation that out of eight committee members, only one Ainu representative has been selected to serve on the "Expert Meeting Concerning Ainu Affairs" which will be established by the Japanese Government. Therefore, for the composition and administration of this committee, we demand that more than half of the committee members should be selected from the Ainu community, to guarantee an equal relationship between Ainu people and the Japanese government, and as regards the selection of committee members, Ainu peoples' opinions should be respected.

The Japanese Government must work on the immediate recovery of the rights of Indigenous Peoples as elaborated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in particular, all rights originally belonging to the Ainu People, such as the rights of self-determination, language and natural resources.

Education from early childhood, including those youth who will inherit the future, is important to all Japanese citizens, not only Ainu people. We urge the Japanese Government to promptly implement measures which emphasize youth education, such as adopting the Ainu language as one of the official languages of Japan, making it available in compulsory education, and creating history textbooks from Ainu perspectives.

The Ainu people are comprised of Indigenous communities who inhabited a wide range of regions, not only Hokkaido, but including Honshu (mainland Japan), Sakhalin (former Karafuto), Kurile Islands (former Chishima), and Kamchatka. Based on this fact, we demand that the Japanese Government must include the Ainu people as a sovereign people in negotiations concerning the return of the so-called "Northern Territories."

Furthermore, Japan is a multiethnic nation comprised by the peoples of Okinawa (Uchinanchû), Resident Koreans, and other communities. The Japanese Government must clearly articulate an effort to build a society founded on the concept of a multiethnic, multicultural nation-state.

**Indigenous Peoples Summit in Ainu Mosir 2008**

**Resolved on July 4, 2008**