

FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION & DEVELOPMENT

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Evgenii P. Velikhov, Chairman

*Vice President, Academy of Sciences of Russia, and
Chief Scientific Advisor to the President of Russia*

received
3-29-93

March 26, 1993

Wilma P. Mankiller
Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465

Dear Ms. Mankiller:

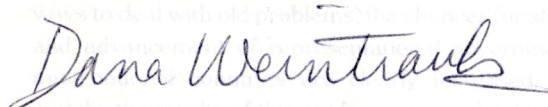
Thank you very much for your interest in the Moscow meeting on indigenous rights. We believe that your participation will constitute an invaluable contribution to the conference proceedings. I would like to update you on recent events related to the conference.

In early March, Mr. Ramazan Abdulatipov, the Chairman of the House of Nationalities of Russia, visited Washington, DC and met with members of the Clinton Administration. On the basis of their meetings, the conference was renamed "The Moscow Conference on the Rights of Indigenous People" to more properly reflect the nature of the project. It also was decided to postpone the conference until September 13-18, 1993, to allow time for much needed fundraising while still taking place during the United Nations' Year of the World's Indigenous People.

In this conference, Russia would like for representatives of indigenous populations, state governments, and multilateral organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as academic experts, to meet and discuss problems of dispute resolution without bringing individual disputes to the table. Many states and native groups come into conflict, and ideally such conflicts would be settled peacefully and fairly. This is especially relevant to the CIS, which is attempting to form stable political and economic systems that must incorporate the many indigenous groups living in its territories. The Russian government hopes that by encouraging wide participation, an open and broad discussion of the issues affecting indigenous people will take place.

I am enclosing the updated draft agenda, synopsis and registration form for The Moscow Conference on the Rights of Indigenous People. Please contact me or E.J. Hogendoorn at the Foundation if you have any questions or would like to register by phone.

Best regards,



Dana Weintraub, Program Coordinator
The Moscow Conference on the Rights
of Indigenous People

Enclosures