



ПО ПРАВАМ КОРЕННЫХ  
МАЛОЧИСЛЕННЫХ НАРОДОВ  
ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

## SYNOPSIS

As a result of the 1993 International Year for the World's Indigenous People, much of the world's attention is being focused on the ever-changing relationship between states and indigenous people. States and indigenous people are being challenged to find new approaches in dealing with one another. Russia, in recognition of this, is hosting **The Moscow Conference on the Rights of Indigenous People**, a forum which will foster discussion of new and tried methods of conflict resolution.

In addition to the Russian government, the Yakut-Sakha nation and the United States government are actively participating in the conference. The UN Human Rights Commission and the International Labour Office will take part in the conference as official observers. In order to make the discussion as comprehensive as possible, participation is being solicited from all interested parties, including indigenous people, their regional organizations, state governments, multi-lateral and non-governmental organizations, and others. The Foundation for International Cooperation (FICD) and the International Non-governmental Association "Union of Lawyers" serve as administrative bodies for the conference. Cooperating organizations include the Center for World Indigenous Studies and the Center for Indigenous Environment and Development.

Paper presentations and panel discussions should follow one or more of the following primary conference topics but are not limited to these categories, and interdisciplinary papers are encouraged.

**1. Indigenous people in the world society:** international guarantees of the free development of indigenous people and international forms of cooperation of indigenous people.

**2. The State and indigenous people:** a legal government as guarantor of the rights and freedoms, the legal status, land tenure and natural resource rights of indigenous people.

**3. Indigenous people and the environment:** environmental protection of indigenous lands, and pollution and cleanup in indigenous lands.

**4. Cultural protection and development of indigenous people:** the reassertion of indigenous people, the preservation of their language, culture, and distinctiveness.

**5. Economic development of indigenous areas:** preserving indigenous rights through economic development.

**6. Dispute resolution for indigenous people:** tried and new means of resolution of disputes between states and indigenous people.

The universal significance of **The Moscow Conference on the Rights of Indigenous People** is that it presents an unique opportunity to discuss in a diverse environment both old and new techniques of conflict management. States participating in the conference will demonstrate a progressive willingness to address issues with indigenous people in a constructive and non-violent manner, thereby enhancing governmental legitimacy in the eyes of those people and increasing the chances of their continued cooperation and stability. The indigenous groups participating will be able to present their positions in an international setting with the respectful participation of states and international organizations. With open and willing discussion of new ways to deal with old problems, the chances for stability and advancement of representational government in multi-national countries are clearly increased. Ultimately, the results of this conference may lead to more permanent mechanisms for resolving disputes.

For further information please address the international secretariat for the conference:

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