First reading of the draft resolution on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the Global Level, Statement of the Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG), presented by Roberto Múkaro Borrero, International Indian Treaty Council, on behalf of the IPMG, Thursday, May 12, 2016, ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, NY

Respectful greetings co-facilitators and all our relations.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group notes that the 2030 Agenda is explicitly grounded in international human rights treaties and reflects the general human rights principle of non-discrimination, including in the aim to “leave no one behind”. The Agenda also emphasizes that the purpose of follow-up and review (FUR) is to ensure accountability and that FUR mechanisms should be inclusive, participatory, transparent, people-centered, gender-sensitive, respect human rights, and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind (A/RES/70/1).

The zero draft presented by the co-facilitators of the “Resolution on Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can reflect the above principles and aspirations more strongly.

Para 2 of the zero draft, for example, mentions that the thematic reviews of the SDGs should address cross-cutting issues. However, the draft does not mention which are these cross-cutting issues - nor how they will be addressed. In line with the Resolution A/70/1 as well as the overall slogan of the 2030 Agenda to “leave no one behind”, we recommend:

1.) that equality and non-discrimination should be explicitly mentioned as key cross-cutting issues to be reviewed across the 17 Goals. This should be a stand alone paragraph under paragraph 4.

This is key to ensuring that progress is reached in a non-discriminatory manner and reaches those furthest behind, including Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, migrant workers and other particular rights-holders who have historically suffered from marginalization and exclusion.

In this context, we recommend:

2.) that the Resolution specifically reaffirm that the follow-up and review at the HLPF should provide for effective linkages to the United Nations human rights monitoring mechanisms, which can contribute invaluable information and guidance, including on the equality aspects of the Agenda. This could be a reference in para. 16.

Addressing equality and non-discrimination as a cross-cutting issue will also, to some extent, counter the unfortunate clustering of goals to be reviewed over a four-year cycle, as suggested in the zero draft. The proposal in the zero draft implies that some of the most relevant goals for human rights and human development (concerning health,
education, gender, inequalities and peaceful societies) will all be reviewed together in a single year - in 2019.

In closing, we are greatly concerned that zero draft para. 14 calls on Major Groups and other Stakeholders to report on their contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This is a contradiction to 2030 Agenda para. 79 (A/RES/70/1), which specifically mentions that reviews should draw on contributions from Indigenous Peoples and other stakeholders - not that these stakeholders should only report on their contributions to implementation.

We therefore strongly recommend:

3.) that para. 14 be amended to be consistent with Agenda 2030, by calling on Major Groups and other Stakeholders to report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This could be accomplished by simply deleting the three words “their contributions to”, which would streamline the paragraph.

Hahom ituno kena atiaono (Thank you sisters and brothers).