**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - 17th Session**

**Item 5: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Interactive dialogue with UNPFII, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and members of the United Nations Treaty Bodies**

**9 July 2024, 15h00 – 18h00**

Thank you Chair.

Given the scope of this session and the range of mechanisms that are represented, we would like to focus our intervention on two items of importance across the United Nations system.

First, Canada unequivocally condemns any instance, in any UN mechanism, of intimidation or reprisal against Indigenous Peoples and civil society representatives. Everyone, in particular victims of human rights violations and civil society actors, should have unhindered access to, and communication with, international bodies without any fear of reprisal.

Second, Canada would like to note the ongoing effects of the current UN liquidity crisis on the activities of international human rights bodies, including mechanisms that pertain to and affect Indigenous rights. We note that due to financial constraints, various modalities of engagement are being curtailed, such as those governing the organization of side events or supporting the hybrid format of certain discussions. We are concerned by the impact these new measures are having on the ability of delegations to effectively engage in these mechanisms, and are particularly concerned by their impact on the participation of Indigenous Peoples. Distinguished representatives, members of the panel, we would like to ask: How can we ensure that Indigenous participation is upheld to its fullest in light of these growing constraints?

Enfin, le Canada reconnaît qu'il reste beaucoup à faire pour mettre pleinement en œuvre la *Déclaration des Nations Unies sur les Droits des Peuples Autochtones*. Comment les autres États membres et les organes des Nations Unies mesurent-ils la mise en œuvre de la Déclaration ? Le Canada est intéressé par vos réponses.

Merci beaucoup / Thank you.