Qujanaq, thank you Mr/Madam Chair,

My name is Tina Kûitse, I speak on behalf of the Inuit Circumpolar Council.

ICC thanks EMRIP for the important work and for referring to the report by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from his country visit to Kalaallit Nunaat and Denmark, in which he recognizes Inuit, Iivit and Inughuit as the Indigenous Peoples of Kalaallit Nunaat.

We wish to provide EMRIP with an update on Kalaallit Nunaat’s drafting of a constitution for a future independent nation.

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With the Self-Government Act of 2009, Kalaallit Nunaat’s right to independence was formally recognized and a constitutional commission was established in 2017.

The draft constitution was finalized in the spring of 2023 and handed over to the government and parliament. The preambular paragraph, proclaims the inherent right of self-determination of the People of Kalaallit Nunaat. It reaffirms that *Inuit* are the Indigenous People, and citizens enjoy the same political and civil rights, and the entirety resources of land as well as the sea are collectively owned by the People of Kalaallit Nunaat.

The drafting of a constitution for a future independent state is an important example of an Indigenous People defining their own political, economic and social development and future, exercising the right of self-determination and we wish to commend the Government of Kalaallit Nunaat for proactively pursuing the important work of drafting a future constitution.

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Mr/Madam Chair. As a self-governing nation, Kalaallit Nunaat has drawn up its own laws on a wide range of issues.

For example, regulations introduced to pursue economic development such as tourism. These regulations are important, but we are concerned about reports of tourist vessels entering fiords during traditional hunting seasons or breaking the ice at times of the year and in places, where the ice should not be broken. We call for the full implementation of the rights and knowledge of Inuit in all laws and regulations.

Currently, Kalaallit Nunaat and Denmark are have established to inquiries to the consequences of colonization, one broadly focused and the second on policies introduced by the state on contraceptives, including IUDs and the use of depo provera in a program designed to minimize the population growth. ICC has provided input to a third inquiry being initiated by the Government of Kalaallit Nunaat on the human rights aspects of the use of contraceptives. We await the results of these inquiries and call for appropriate and immediate action to remedy the individual and collective rights violated in these cases.

Qujanaq, Mr/Madam Chair.