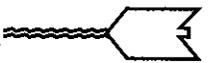


# INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL of ARIZONA



**MEMBER TRIBES**

- AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
- COCOPAH TRIBE
- COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
- FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
- FORT MOJAVE TRIBE
- GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
- HAVASUPAI TRIBE
- HOPAI TRIBE
- HUALAPAI TRIBE
- KAIBAB-PAIUTE TRIBE
- PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
- PUEBLO OF ZUNI
- QUECHAN TRIBE
- SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
- SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
- TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
- TONTO APACHE TRIBE
- WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE
- YAVAPAI APACHE NATION
- YAVAPAI PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE

## Resolution 0409

### **A Resolution Urging United States of America President Barrack H. Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Dr. Susan E. Rice, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, to Officially Declare Their Support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**WHEREAS,** The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) approved resolution PHX-08-035 entitled, "Support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" calling on the United States to sign the declarations; and

**WHEREAS,** The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, hereafter referred to as the "Declaration", was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 13, 2007; and

**WHEREAS,** One hundred forty-three (143) countries voted to support the Declaration, four (4) countries, including the United States of America voted against the Declaration, eleven (11) countries abstained and thirty-five (35) countries were absent; and

**WHEREAS,** Deputy United States Representative Robert Hagen in his remarks asserting non-support of the Declaration by the United States stated, "We must vote against the adoption of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples...if it were to encourage harmonious and constructive relations, should have been written in terms that are transparent and capable of implementation. Unfortunately, the text that emerged from that failed process is confusing, and risks endless conflicting interpretations about its application, as already evidenced by the numerous complex interpretative statements that were issued by States at its adoption at the Human Rights Council. We cannot lend our support to such a text"; and

**WHEREAS,** In an effort to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples worldwide, the Declaration was approved after twenty years of work by Indigenous peoples and the United Nations system as a result of a study by Jose R. Martinez on the problem of discrimination, oppression, marginalization and exploitation suffered by Indigenous peoples; and

**WHEREAS,** The Declaration is a comprehensive statement addressing the human rights of Indigenous peoples such as the right to live in dignity, to maintain and strengthen our own needs and goals. The Declaration addresses both individual and collective rights as cultural rights and identity, rights to education, health, employment and language. To have the right to fully enjoy as collectives or as individuals, all human rights and rights under international rights law. To be free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of our rights, especially as it pertains to our origin or identity. To have the right to self-determination and to freely determine our own political status and to pursue our economic, social and cultural development and institutions, while retaining our rights to participate fully, if we choose to, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the state; and

**WHEREAS,** The United States of America has five-hundred seventy-nine (579) federally recognized Indian Tribal Nations, who come from rich, vibrant and prehistoric cultures. Prior to European contact, Indian tribal nations were sovereign and carried out decision making to the fullest. The United States of America has a unique legal and political relationship with Indian Tribal Nations and a special relationship with Alaska Natives entities as provided in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, and federal statutes; and

**WHEREAS,** On January 20, 2009, Barack H. Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States of America, on January 21, 2009, Hillary Rodham Clinton was confirmed by the United States Senate as Secretary of State and on January 22, 2009, Dr. Susan E. Rice was confirmed by the United States Senate as Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations and serves as the leader of the United States delegation to the United Nations.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona affirms its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona calls upon President Barack H. Obama to direct the Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations to officially support and sign the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was presented and duly adopted at a meeting of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona on **June 22, 2009**, where a quorum was present.



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Shan Lewis,  
Vice-Chairman, Fort Mojave Tribe  
President, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona