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Indian Council of South America  
International Council For Human Rights  
Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition

Universal Periodic Review  
Thursday 24 September 2009 Item 6 UPR Chile  
Ambassador Ronald Barnes

The Indian Council of South America and the associated international organizations appreciate would like to congratulate Chile for its constructive participation and completion of its first Universal Periodic Review.

Chile is to be commended for its support for the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration recognizes, inter alia, the right to self-determination, the right to free, prior and informed consent and other important important rights, including treaty rights.

In this regard it was brought to our attention by Mapuche representatives that there are historical treaties signed with Spain of which Chile has also signed. These Treaties are the root of disagreement and conflict that is leading to detention and imprisonment, even when raising these claims in a non-violent manner.

While our delegations notes paragraph 47 of the Report where Chile's antiterrorists laws cannot be applied on the basis of ethnic, religious or political consideration, we hear reports that of Indigenous Peoples in prison that go back to the Pinochet regime. In consultation with particular Mapuche representatives we would like to support, inter alia, paragraphs 68, 69 and 70 which calls for Chile to solve the problems of Indigenous Peoples, in particular their land issues, and ensure the that the Anti-Terrorism Act (Law 18.314) does not undermine their rights (Azerbaijan) especially those acts related to non-violent claims of Indigenous Peoples (Switzerland).

In conformity with several calls to address the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Chile, our delegations call upon Chile to fully review its treatment of Indigenous Peoples, in particular its treaty commitments with the Mapuche peoples.

I thank you Mr. Chair.