



## **Addressee: CEDAW, UNESCO, UNDP, UNIFEM**

**Paragraph #6 Session #3 (2004)**

### **Full Text**

Noting that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women makes no reference to indigenous women and that it does not take into account the specific nature of the gender dimension of racial discrimination, the Forum recommends that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:

- a. Pay special attention to the issues related to maintaining the integrity of indigenous women and the gender dimension of racial discrimination against indigenous peoples;
- b. Organize a meeting, in collaboration with indigenous women, UNIFEM, UNESCO and UNDP, with the objective of beginning a process to develop and adopt a general recommendation on indigenous women, including women living under colonization.

### **Comments**

CEDAW - (a) The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women continues to review the situation of indigenous women in reporting States in a systematic manner. At its most recent session (January 2005), the Committee paid particular attention to the situation of indigenous women in Paraguay. Further information about the work of the Committee and the Commission on the Status of Women on indigenous women is contained in documents E/CN.19/2003/CRP.1 and E/CN.19/2004/CRP.5. The results of the third session of

the Forum were made available to Committee members.

(b) Not initiated

UNESCO - (b) Not initiated

UNDP - a) Maintaining cognizance of the racial discrimination against indigenous women is at the forefront of UNIFEM's project initiatives and UNIFEM hopes that its projects will remain and become increasingly sensitive to the unique situation affecting indigenous women.

b) Indigenous women in Latin America share a history of colonization and oppression but their immediate situations are heterogeneous. For this, UNIFEM hopes to eventually support a dialogue between a range of indigenous women's groups but this is a long term goal as the varying, immediate needs affecting women's groups must first be considered.

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## **Area of Work**

Indigenous Women