

Thank you.

My Delegation notes with appreciation the report contained in document A/68/317. We recognize the work performed by Mr. Anaya since 2008 and, in particular, we wish to acknowledge his visit to Brazil in 2012. His dedication and commitment have strengthened Brazil's resolve to co-sponsor the resolution extending the mandate of the Special Reporter for 3 more years.

Last year, Brazil hosted the largest UN event of all times, the Rio+20 Conference. Indigenous peoples were represented among the major groups with a direct interest in the promotion of sustainable development. They have a fundamental contribution to make in achieving greater coherence among the interconnected objectives of economic growth, social justice, the protection of nature and the sustainable use of natural resources.

The active presence of indigenous peoples in the Rio+20 summit was a concrete expression of the principle enshrined in paragraph 49 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It also provided space, within a critically important UN Conference, for indigenous peoples to have a say in global, regional and national sustainable development strategies.

Mr. Chair,

In June 2012, on World Environment Day, Brazil enacted a National Policy on Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands. The aim is to ensure the rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable use of indigenous land and territorial natural resources. It is a national law designed to ensure the integrity of indigenous land, the improvement of their quality life and better prospects for future generations, while respecting the social-cultural autonomy of these communities.

Brazil is ready to work on the basis of the Secretary-General's Report, presented under Resolution 67/153, and of the action-oriented draft text to be prepared by the President of the General Assembly. Both documents will guide our deliberations towards the General Assembly high-level meeting in September of 2014, as per Resolution 66/296. We fully support the inclusive participation of indigenous peoples in the preparatory process, as called for. And we are confident that the SG and the PGA will take into consideration paragraph OP7 of Resolution 66/296 to the effect that views and concerns expressed by indigenous peoples around the world will be brought to bear in full respect of Members-Sates' sovereignty.

Mr. Chariman,

Brazil has consistently consulted with indigenous populations prior to, and during the implementation of public or private projects in their territory, or which may otherwise affect their way of life or resources. We are currently working towards the legal consolidation of consultation mechanisms. These efforts are taken on a priority basis at the highest levels of the Executive branch, by the Presidency of the Republic and the Ministry

of External Relations. Since 2011, the Government has intensified work on future legislation on the right to prior consultation, in accordance with recommendations contained in the ILO Convention 169.

The relationship between public or private works and the rights and needs of indigenous peoples is a politically sensitive and very important issue, globally and for Brazil in particular. The Government of Brazil will not shy away from facing these complex issues with a view to enhancing the respect for and recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples, including through increasing their representation in national, regional and multilateral policy making. We are ready to make additional progress during the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, next year, and will work diligently towards a substantive and significant outcome.

Thank you.