



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Third Committee

GA Third/1/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Third Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee,

1 *Recalling* United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 of 14 December 1960 that emphasized
2 the right to self-determination, in relation to the decolonization of countries and the increased rights
3 of indigenous populations within existing States,

4 *Recognizing* that the right of people to self-determination is a fundamental principle of inter-
5 national law, which was recognised by the United Nations in 1948 and enshrined in the Charter of the
6 United Nations,

7 *Understanding* that indigenous groups face poverty and unfair treatment due to a lack of con-
8 trol over their own communities,

9 *Regretting* that indigenous groups are disproportionately affected by environmental exploits
10 such as mining, logging and oil extraction,

11 *Acknowledging* that the realization of self-determination must be pursued in a peaceful man-
12 ner, without causing interference with the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity,

13 *Affirming* the importance of the right of peoples to self-determination and the hindrance of this
14 right due to increased conflict and occupation in many States around the world,

15 *Concerned* by the international lack of legislation supporting self-determination for indigenous
16 groups,

17 *Taking into consideration* that some Member States have successfully fostered a positive rela-
18 tionship with their indigenous populations,

19 1. *Encourages* the creation of a fund to support the programs established in this resolution;

20 2. *Supports* the creation of an oversight mechanism that includes the direct participation of
21 representatives from non-self-governing territories to ensure transparency, accountability and community-
22 led decision making;

23 (a) This mechanism shall be a committee which publishes annual field reports on the
24 condition of indigenous peoples that will then be used to guide funding decisions;

25 (b) The committee will be funded by the voluntary specific fund associated with this
26 resolution;

27 3. *Requests* the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, United Nations Development Programme
28 and other relevant agencies offer technical assistance to Member States seeking to strengthen indige-
29 nous protections or inclusive governance structures;

30 4. *Encourages* Member States to support United Nations technical assistance programs aimed
31 at supporting indigenous communities in preserving their cultural identities and strengthening local
32 governance and community participation;

33 5. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and United
34 Nations Development Programme to develop capacity-building workshops on self-administration, le-
35 gal literacy and institution-building;

36 6. *Supports* the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in facilitating
37 mediation and in monitoring peaceful sessions to assist peoples in exercising their rights with appro-
38 priate and mutual consent;

39 7. *Encourages* partnerships between indigenous authorities and States to strengthen auton-
40 omy structures to address concerns that unresolved grievances between indigenous populations and
41 States can escalate into separatist pressure, armed conflict or parallel governance structures:

42 (a) Self-determination processes must occur in a manner respectful of territorial in-
43 tegrity and international law;

44 8. *Recommends* that Member States recognize indigenous and occupied populations and their
45 rights to self-determination by adopting legislation which offers financial independence to such pop-
46 ulations and invites them to engage in international affairs.

Passed, Yes: 50 / No: 21 / Abstain: 13