



Circassian endorsement of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

which was adopted by UN General Assembly Resolution 61/295 on 13 September 2007.

We, The Indigenous Circassians (Adyghe), welcome and support the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

We acknowledge that the General Assembly, Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and good faith in the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the State in accordance with the Charter



We the Indigenous Circassian Adyghe Nation of Circassia acknowledge and support the United Nations for;

- The affirmation that indigenous Peoples are equal to all other Peoples, while recognizing the right of all Peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such,
- The affirmation that all Peoples contribute to the diversity and richness of civilizations and cultures, which constitute the common heritage of humankind,
- The affirmation that all doctrines, policies, and practices based on or advocating superiority of Peoples or individuals on the basis of national origin or racial, religious, ethnic, or cultural differences are racist, scientifically false, legally invalid, morally condemnable, and socially unjust,
- The reaffirmation that indigenous Peoples, in the exercise of our rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind,
- The concern that indigenous Peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, our colonization and dispossession of our lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, our right to development in accordance with our own needs and interests,
- The recognition of the urgent need to respect and promote the inherent rights of indigenous Peoples which derive from our political, economic and social structures, and from our culture's spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially our rights to our lands, territories and resources,
- The recognition as well for the urgent need to respect and promote the rights of indigenous Peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with That the State,
- Welcoming the fact that indigenous Peoples are organizing themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement and in order to bring to an end all forms of discrimination and oppression wherever we occur,
- Being convinced that control by indigenous Peoples over developments affecting them and our lands, territories, and resources will enable them to maintain and strengthen our institutions, cultures and traditions, and to promote our development in accordance with our aspirations and needs,
- Recognizing that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures, and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment,
- Emphasizing the contribution of the demilitarization of the lands and territories of indigenous Peoples to peace, economic and social progress and development, understanding and friendly relations among nations and Peoples of the world,
- Recognizing in particular the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education, and well-being of our children, consistent with the rights of the child,
- Considering that the rights affirmed in treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements between That the State and indigenous Peoples are, in some situations, matters of international concern, interest, responsibility and character,
- Considering also that treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements, and the relationship we represent, are the basis for a strengthened partnership between indigenous Peoples and That the State,
- Acknowledging that the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 2 as well as the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, affirm the fundamental importance of the right to self-determination of all Peoples, by virtue of which we freely determine our political status and freely pursue our economic, social, and cultural development,
- Bearing in mind that nothing in this Declaration may be used to deny any Peoples our right to self-determination, exercised in conformity with international law,
- Being convinced that the recognition of the rights of indigenous Peoples in this Declaration will enhance harmonious and cooperative relations between the State and indigenous Peoples, based on principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, non-discrimination and good faith,



- Encouraging that the State to comply with and effectively implement all our obligations as we apply to indigenous Peoples under international instruments, in particular those related to human rights, in consultation and cooperation with the Peoples concerned,
- Emphasizing that the United Nations has an important and continuing role to play in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous Peoples,
- Believing that this Declaration is a further important step forward for the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of indigenous Peoples and in the development of relevant activities of the United Nations system in this field,
- Recognizing and reaffirming that indigenous individuals are entitled without discrimination to all human rights recognized in international law, and that indigenous Peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable for our existence, well-being and integral development as Peoples,
- Recognizing that the situation of indigenous Peoples varies from region to region and from country to country and that the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical and cultural backgrounds should be taken into consideration,
- We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian Nation of Circassia acknowledge, support, and thank the United Nations for the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



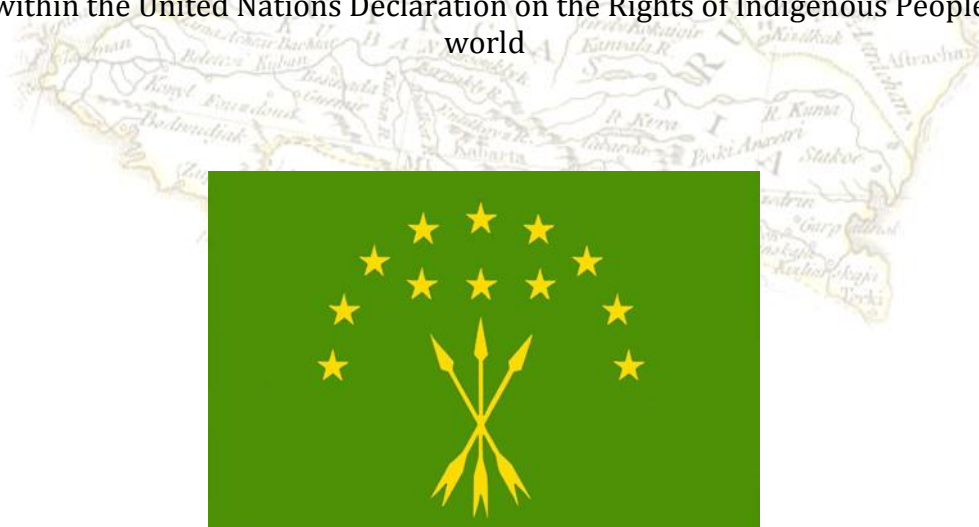


DECLARATION OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND NATIONHOOD OF THE
AUTONOMUS AUTOCHTHONOUS INDIGENOUS CIRCASSIAN PEOPLES:
A NATION IN EXILE

Preamble:

To All and Singular to whom these presents shall come,

We the Indigenous Circassian Adyghe Nation the Autochthonous noble Peoples of the North Caucasus “Circassia” acknowledge and support the United Nation that they solemnly proclaim the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect. Therefore, in this same spirit and pursuit we adhered to this proclamation and so have adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a template to claim and declare our Indigenous Sovereignty and Nationhood and all the rights and privileges afforded to nations within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to the world





We declare that no matter our geography, tribe, faith or political affiliation we are united as one People through the one God, the Almighty, God the creator of all things, He confirms our Brotherhood and Nationhood, with his WILL and blessings we exist.

We are the Indigenous Circassians, Adyghe, Scythes, Maeots, Cimmeri, Sinds, Amazon, Kerkets, Djik, Djuli-and, Zikh, Zygi, Achins, Zanychs, Achæi, Heniochi, Cercetæ, Macropogones, Basks, Eskesh, Kassog, Kassag, Kazakh, Kassack, Cherkes, Nart, Nat, Ant, Antihi, Anticites, Anticae, Tcherkess, Circassie, Abadzekh, Zanychs, Zhana, Adamey, Beslency, Bzhedugh, Kemirgoy, Hatuqway, Jilax'steney Eastern Kabardians, Makhosh, Mamxegh, Natukhay, Shapsugh, Yegerkway and Ubykh have united as a people to create a unified and free indigenous nation as Circassians under God named "the Autochthonous Adyghe Circassian Nation of Circassia" and by the short name of "Circassia". The following is true that "Circassia" means the indigenous nation of Circassian Adyghe peoples and principalities "Circassia" means the unified nation of the indigenous Adyghe nations, peoples, tribes, principalities and provinces of Circassia in the geographical region of the North Caucasus. "Circassian" means an indigenous autochthonous creation of God flesh and blood Adyghe man woman child being from historical and geographical Terra Circassia.



We, the Indigenous Circassians (Adyghe) confirm that we are one of the most ancient indigenous Peoples in the world and our contribution into the development of humanity is unique. The history of our People can be traced from the birth of civilization in the Northern Caucasus and Steppes, the material evidence of which can be found all over this territory. The Maikop and Dolmen cultures, the heroic Nart epos “Ancient Antihi (Άντιη)” have gained world heritage recognition. Our People our ethnic and traditional customs, our khabze the etiquette, rituals, culture, and language (Adyghabze) of the Circassian ethnos emerged throughout this territory over the past millennia before legal history and beyond legal memory. Terra Circassia – the Autochthonous and historical homeland territory of the Indigenous Adyghe Circassians is located at the Steppes and foothills of the Northern Caucasus. It is a part of the present territory of the so called Krasnodar Region. It embraces Adygeya, Karachaevo-Cherkessia, and Kabardino-Balkaria and also includes the flats of the contemporary Northern Ossetia.

The most ancient ethno-genetic sources of the Circassian (Adyghean) ethnos are related to the population of the Maikop archaeological culture of the North-West and Central Caucasus (IV BC). Throughout the millennium – from V to XV century – the Indigenous Ancient Circassian (ancient Adyghean) population of the North West Caucasus was unified by the boundary of a single country – “Zikhia”. Ethnonym Zikhi is another title for the Circassian (Adyghe) ethnos in the early middle Ages. It was an umbrella term for all Circassian (Adyghe) sub-ethnic divisions. Simultaneously with the usage of the ethnonym ‘Zikh’ and Zikhia as the country’s name.

By Western sources, there was also an eastern counterpart – titled ‘Kashak’ – which was used as a synonym to the ethnonym (in the Arabic and Persian sources). In Russian chronicles it was called ‘Kasog’, whereas, in Armenian geographic and historic writing it was called ‘Gashk’. Some other ancient documents related to us as ‘Kasa’. In fact, the terms ‘Zikh’ and ‘Kashak’ are absolute synonyms. Beginning from the middle of the XIII century, the term ‘Kashak’ (‘Kasog’) was replaced by the new term for the Adyghe – the Ethnonym ‘Circassian’, and consequently, for the country – Circassia. In the Russian pronunciation, the term ‘Cherkas’ was used, while in the Arabic and Persian – the terms ‘Jarkass’ and ‘Sharkass’ were used. During the XIII-XVII centuries, the terms ‘Zich’ and ‘Circassian’ were used simultaneously as absolute synonyms. The Western sources of the XIII-XVI centuries use the term Zikh (Zikhia) and the term ‘Circassian’ (Circassia). The Circassian territory spans from the rise of the Kuban River to the Black Sea. The boundaries of our indigenous lands are: Abkhazia and the Black Sea in the south-west Malaya Abkhazia and Ossetia in the south the rivers Kuban, Malka and Terek delineate it from Russia, the rivers Terek and Sunzha serve as a boundary between the Circassians and Kistinians. The Black Sea laves the western boundaries of Circassia, from the rise of the Kuban River to the Agripsh River. Our ownership of Terra Circassia is from time immemorial. We the traditional owners, the first people of Circassia have never voluntarily entered into agreements with other Peoples or People for the surrender or sale, voluntary or not of our Circassia and her lands. Our land is part of the Circassian Adyghe essence. For as long as at least one Adyghe populates this Planet, this land “Circassia” will belong to the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People.

Man’s Ancient customs state, that flesh and blood man was divided by God to nations and tongues. The “Adyghe Nation” a creation of God, Crowned by the hand of God and granted the custodianship over Circassia by him. Proof of this dignity is the acknowledgment by all the Nations of God, that we are the Autochthonous Nation of the North Caucasus.

“We the Adyghe” by divine right are Gods legal guardians of Terra Circassia and have been since time immemorial. Autochthony, our Holy mandate, the divine testament of our inheritance, the confirmation of our royal rule of this “Gods land Circassia”. By His will the Adyghe Nation was



created the Sovereign Autochthonous Peoples of Terra Circassia with unlimited unalienable and unassailable rights and freedoms as a Peoples and a Nation.

We have suffered cruel turns of fate; Circassians had not known peace for hundreds of years. The Russian Caucasian war of the 18-19 centuries placed the Circassian (Adyghe) People on the borderline of survival. Officially, based on the figures obtained by statistical officers of tsarist Russia, approximately 40 percent of the Adyghe Nation had been physically exterminated, more than 50 percent were deported by force to the Ottoman Empire, and only 10 percent remained in their historical and ancestral homeland.

We have been pushed out by force from our own land, and over time, the records of our existence are being gradually eliminated and destroyed. Our graves are robbed and destroyed by bulldozers, concreted over and flooded with water. Our Relics, sacred and holy sites, our bones and artefacts looted, stolen and illegally hidden in collections abroad and in foreign museums. Our People are facing extinction, and our tribes are dying-out and our tongue is losing its speech. Our blood is slowly thinning, assimilating with the international community. We are the People who are losing our identity, names, voice, and Nationhood. In light of this tragedy we have gathered together from around the world in order to remind and confirm to the international community of Nations and the People of the world of our existence, to demand and claim our Nationhood and sovereignty as an indigenous Peoples seeking peace, repatriation, reconciliation, treaty, and recompense. We have taken our future in our hands placed our feet firm on the path to self-determination as one Autochthonous Indigenous Adyghe Circassian Nation.

We ask that the UN, EU, Russia and the international community of nations to uphold and defend the rights that are entitled to us under the UN charter of Human rights and the declaration of the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples, with all other International laws, instruments, covenants, mandates, declarations and treaties respecting the sovereignty and rights of Indigenous Peoples and nations, People and human Rights.





DECLARATION



e the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia;

Article 1 ... have the right to the full enjoyment, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights law.

Article 2 ... are 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, in particular that based on our indigenous origin or identity.

Articles 3 ... have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right we freely determine our political status and freely pursue our economic, social, and cultural development.

Article 4 ... in exercising our right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to our internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing our autonomous functions.

Article 5 ... have the right to maintain and strengthen our distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining our right to participate fully, if we so choose, in the political, economic, social, and cultural life of the State.

Article 6 ... Circassian individuals have the right to a nationality and Nationhood.

Article 7 ... 1. Indigenous Circassians and individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person. 2. Indigenous Circassian Peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace, and security as distinct Peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.

Article 8 ... 1. have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of our culture. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall provide us effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for: (a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving us of our integrity as distinct Peoples, or of our cultural values or ethnic identities; (b) Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing us of our lands, territories or resources; (c) Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of our rights; (d) Any form of forced assimilation or integration; (e) Any form of propaganda designed to promote or incite racial or ethnic discrimination directed against us.

Article 9 ... and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.

Article 10 ... shall not be forcibly removed from our lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior, and informed consent of the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.

Article 11 ... 1. have the right to practice and revitalize our cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect, and develop the past, present, and future manifestations of our cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples That the State shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples, with respect to our cultural, intellectual, religious, and spiritual property taken without our free, prior, and informed consent, or in violation of our laws, traditions, and customs.

Article 12 ... 1. have the right to manifest, practice, develop, and teach our spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to our religious and cultural sites; the right



to the use and control of our ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of our human remains. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall seek to enable the access and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains in our possession through fair, transparent, and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia.

Article 13 ... 1. have the right to revitalize, use, develop, and transmit to future generations our histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain our own names for communities, places, and persons. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia can understand and be understood in political, legal, and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

Article 14 ... 1. have the right to establish and control our educational systems and institutions providing education in our own languages, in a manner appropriate to our cultural methods of teaching and learning. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia and individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination. 3. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall, in conjunction with our indigenous Circassian People, take effective measures, in order for indigenous Circassians and individuals, particularly children, including those living outside our communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in our own culture and provided in our own language.

Article 15 ... 1. have the right to the dignity and diversity of our culture, traditions, history, and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous Circassian People, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding, and good relations among Indigenous Circassian People and all other segments of society.

Article 16 ... 1. have the right to establish our own media in our own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take effective measures to ensure that State-owned media duly reflect indigenous Circassian cultural diversity. That the State, without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect Indigenous Circassian cultural diversity.

Article 17 ... 1. and individuals have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Circassian Peoples and representatives take specific measures to protect Indigenous Circassian children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development, taking into account our special vulnerability and the importance of education for our empowerment. 3. We, the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia and individuals have the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

Article 18 ... demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect our rights, through representatives chosen by ourselves in accordance with our own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop our own indigenous Circassian decision-making institutions.

Article 19 ... demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Indigenous Circassian People through our own representative institutions in order to obtain our free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them the Indigenous Circassian People.

Article 20 ... 1. have the right to maintain and develop our political, economic, and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of our own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all our traditional and other economic activities. 2. Indigenous Circassian People deprived of their means of subsistence and developments are entitled to just and fair redress.



Article 21 ... 1. have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of our economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of our economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous Circassian elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

Article 22 ... 1. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous Circassian elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous Circassian People, to ensure that indigenous Circassian women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

Articles 23 ... Indigenous Circassian People have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising our right to development. In particular, Indigenous Peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing, and other economic and social programs affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programs through our own institutions.

Article 24 ... 1. have the right to our traditional medicines and to maintain our health practices, including the conservation of our vital medicinal plants, animals, and minerals. We, the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia and individuals also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services. 2. and individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.

Article 25 ... have the right to maintain and strengthen our distinctive spiritual relationship with our traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold our responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

Article 26 ... 1. have the right to the lands, territories, and resources which we have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia have the right to own, use, develop, and control the lands, territories and resources that we possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which we have otherwise acquired. 3. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous Circassian People.

Article 27 ... demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous Circassian Peoples, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due recognition to Indigenous Circassian People' laws, traditions, customs, and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous Circassian People pertaining to our lands, territories, and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous Circassian People shall have the right to participate in this process.

Article 28 ... 1. have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair, and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which we have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without our free, prior, and informed consent. 2. Unless otherwise freely agreed upon by the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia People, compensation shall take the form of lands, territories, and resources equal in quality, size, and legal status or of monetary compensation or other appropriate redress.

Article 29 ... 1. Indigenous Circassian Peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of our lands or territories and resources. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall establish and implement assistance programs for indigenous Circassian People for such conservation and protection,



without discrimination. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall take effective measures to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in the lands or territories of Indigenous Circassian People without our free, prior, and informed consent. 3. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall also take effective measures to ensure, as needed, that programs for monitoring, maintaining, and restoring the health of Indigenous Circassian People, as developed and implemented by the Peoples affected by such materials, are duly implemented.

Article 30 ... 1. Military activities shall not take place in the lands or territories of Indigenous Circassian People, unless justified by a relevant public interest or otherwise freely agreed with or requested by the Indigenous Peoples concerned. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall undertake effective consultations with the indigenous Circassian People, through appropriate procedures and in particular through our representative institutions, prior to using our lands or territories for military activities.

Article 31 ... 1. have the right to maintain, control, protect, and develop our cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of our sciences, technologies, and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. We also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop our intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions. 2. In conjunction with Indigenous Circassian People, the State shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

Articles 32 ... 1 We, the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of our lands or territories and other resources. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous Circassian People through our own representative institutions in order to obtain our free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting our lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization, or exploitation of mineral, water, or other resources. 3. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural, or spiritual impact.

Article 33 ... 1. have the right to determine our own identity or membership in accordance with our customs and traditions. This does not impair the right of indigenous Circassian individuals to obtain citizenship of the State in which we live. 2. We the Indigenous Adyghe Circassian People of Circassia Peoples have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of our institutions in accordance with our own procedures.

Articles 34 ... have the right to promote, develop and maintain our institutional structures and our distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices and, in the cases where we exist, juridical systems or customs, in accordance with international human rights standards.

Articles 35 ... have the right to determine the responsibilities of individuals to our communities.

Article 36 ... 1., in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations, and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with our own members as well as other Peoples across borders. 2. demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous Circassian Peoples, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of this right.

Article 37 ... 1. have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements concluded with the State or our successors and to have the State Honor and respect such treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements. 2. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating the rights of Indigenous Circassian People contained in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

Article 38 ... demand that under United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that the State in consultation and cooperation with indigenous Peoples, shall take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of this Declaration.



Articles 39 ... have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from the State and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

Article 40 ... have the right to access to and prompt decision through just and fair procedures for the resolution of conflicts and disputes with that the State or other parties, as well as to effective remedies for all infringements of our individual and collective rights. Such a decision shall give due consideration to the customs, traditions, rules, and legal systems of the indigenous Circassian Peoples and international human rights.

Article 41 ... acknowledge and thank with great humbleness the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations that they shall contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance. Ways and means of ensuring participation of Indigenous Peoples including Indigenous Circassians on issues affecting them shall be established.

Article 42 ... acknowledge respectfully that The United Nations, its bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and specialized agencies, including at the country level, and the State shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow up the effectiveness of this Declaration.


Article 43 ... The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity, and well-being of the indigenous Circassian People of the world.

Article 44 ... All the rights and freedoms recognized herein are equally guaranteed to male and female Indigenous Circassian People and individuals.

Article 45 ... Nothing in this Declaration may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights Indigenous Circassian People have now or may acquire in the future.

Article 46 ... 1. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, People, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to the Charter of the United Nations or construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States. 2. In the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all shall be respected. The exercise of the rights set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law and in accordance with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and strictly necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society. 3. The provisions set forth in this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, and respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance, and good faith.

1,2nd draft by:

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