



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/20
10 July 2002

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-fourth session
Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION

**PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND
PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Note by the secretariat

1. In its resolution 2001/12, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights recommended that the Coordinator for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People hold a special fund-raising meeting with the permanent missions in Geneva of interested States and the members of the Advisory Group for the Voluntary Fund for the Decade to encourage financial contributions to the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade and the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, as well as the appointment of qualified staff, including indigenous persons, from within the regular budget of the United Nations, to assist with the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights relating to the indigenous programme, and submit to the Sub-Commission at its fifty-fourth session and its Working Group on Indigenous Populations at its twentieth session a report on the results of initiatives taken.
2. The High Commissioner for Human Rights submitted to Governments an annual appeal for funds for the work of the Office (Annual Appeal 2002: Overview of activities and financial requirements) in which an outline of activities planned under the programme of activities of the International Decade was included. In September and November 2001, a letter of appeal was sent by the Office of the High Commissioner to all Governments requesting contributions for

both indigenous voluntary funds. At the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Advisory Group of the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade was invited to address the Commission in order to provide information about the work of the two funds and make a request for contributions. In April 2002, the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Group held their annual meeting with donor Governments to encourage further contributions. In addition to these activities, the secretariat holds regular meetings with donor Governments to discuss funding for indigenous-related activities being undertaken by the Office.

3. Information on the results of these fund-raising initiatives and the activities implemented under the International Decade is contained in the annual reports of the Office to the General Assembly (A/56/206), the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2002/96) and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2002/6 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2002/7).
