



**DECLARATION OF THE
CENTER FOR WORLD INDIGENOUS STUDIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
On Peaceful Transition of Biafran Political Status
MEETING IN SESSION ON 22 APRIL 2006**

It is the decision of the CWIS Board of Directors that the Center for World Indigenous Studies shall undertake all possible effort to advance the human rights of the Biafran people and associated allies, and support the self-determination of the Biafran Nation within a framework of non-violent action in pursuit of a peaceful political transition to self-government consistent with the right of a people to freely determine its own social, economic, political and cultural future without external interference guaranteed under the United Nations Charter and subsequent international instruments. When the Center undertakes research or education to advance traditional knowledge it shall at all opportunities include topics that may be beneficial to the Biafran Nation and her people and accordingly place the concerns of the Biafran Nation high on the list of priorities within the Center's Forum for Global Exchange as a matter of international importance.

Furthermore, the Center's Board of Directors does recognize the Biafran Foundation as the principal representative of the Biafran Nation external to the Country and shall endeavor when opportunity arises to work closely with the Biafran Foundation members to advance a peaceful and non-violent path toward a new political future for the Biafran Nation--a future chosen freely by the Biafran people and their allies. In all respects, the Center recognizes the work of the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) and the efforts of MASSOB's leaders to advance a non-violent and peaceful political transition of the political status of the Biafran Nation within the framework of international law. The Center's Board of Director also recognizes the importance of gaining the release of MASSOB's leadership and the leadership of allied peoples from Nigerian prisons where they have been detained since October 2005 by Security Forces under charges that ignore fundamental human rights. The Center shall support all proper efforts to gain release of improperly imprisoned Biafran and allied people leadership and seek to apply indigenous knowledge, research and education for the benefit of wider public understanding of the situation in Biafra.

Unanimously approved by the Center for World Indigenous Studies Board of Directors