

Working Paper No. 3

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-Commission on Prevention of  
Discrimination and Protection of  
Minorities

Working Group on Indigenous Populations  
Fourth session  
Geneva  
29 July - 2 August 1985

Items 4 and 5 of the provisional agenda

REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROMOTION AND  
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF  
INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

STANDARD-SETTING ACTIVITIES:

EVOLUTION OF STANDARDS CONCERNING THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS  
POPULATIONS

DRAFTING OF A BODY OF PRINCIPLES ON INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, BASED  
ON RELEVANT NATIONAL LEGISLATION, INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS  
AND OTHER JURIDICAL CRITERIA

Material received from other intergovernmental  
organizations and their subsidiary bodies

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction .....	2
Organization of American States .....	2

### Introduction

1. In resolution 1982/34 of 7 May 1982, the Economic and Social Council authorized the Sub-Commission to establish annually a working group on indigenous populations to review developments pertaining to the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations, including information requested by the Secretary-General annually, and to give special attention to the evolution of standards concerning the rights of indigenous populations.
2. In resolution 1984/35 B of 30 August 1984, the Sub-Commission requested the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Working Group (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1984/20), and the conclusions, proposals and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. José R. Martínez Cobo (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1983/21/Add.8) to Governments, specialized agencies and United Nations bodies concerned, organizations of indigenous peoples and other interested non-governmental organizations for comments and suggestions, in anticipation of the fourth session of the Working Group in 1985.
3. In accordance with these resolutions, appropriate communications requesting information, comments and suggestions were addressed by the Secretary-General to Governments and the organizations referred to.
4. The present document contains the replies received from other intergovernmental organizations and their subsidiary bodies up to 25 April 1985. Additional replies, if any, will be included in addenda to this document.

#### ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

[Original: English]

[17 December 1984]

[The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States stated that the conclusions, proposals and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur and the report of the Working Group on its third session had been transmitted to the Inter-American Indian Institute, a specialized organization of the Organization of American States, for its information and such comments as it might wish to make. For information, the General Secretariat sent a copy of the Report on the Situation of Human Rights of a Segment of the Nicaraguan Population of Miskito Origin, prepared by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. 1/]

---

1/ The Report is available for consultation in the Secretariat files in English and Spanish only.