



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

31 January 2019

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 22 January 2019, I have the honour to share with you the Programme of the High-Level Event of the General Assembly to mark the global launch of the International Year of Indigenous Languages to be held at 10:00am, on Friday, 1 February 2019 in the General Assembly Hall.

Please, Excellency, accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MFEspinosa".

Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

**International Year of Indigenous Languages
High-level Event of the General Assembly
1 February 2019 // General Assembly Hall**

10 a.m.-10:10 a.m. Traditional Ceremony

Traditional opening address by Kanen'tó:kon Hemlock, Mohawk Nation, Kahnawà:ke

10:10 a.m.-11 a.m. – Opening Segment

- Address by H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the General Assembly
- Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Evo Morales, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia
- Address by Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
- Remarks by 4 Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee for the organization of the International Year of Indigenous Languages (Member States and Indigenous Peoples)
 - Co-Chair representing Member States: H.E. Mr. Gabriel Cisneros, Vice-Minister of Culture and Heritage of Ecuador
 - Co-Chair representing indigenous peoples: Mr. Akile Ch'oh, Grand Chief Edward John, Tl'azt'en Nation and First Nations Summit
 - Co-Chair representing Member States: Mr. Craig Ritchie, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.
 - Co-Chair representing indigenous peoples: Ms. Aili Keskitalo, President, Sami Parliament, Norway
- Remarks by Mr. Ernesto Ottone Ramírez, Assistant Director-General for Culture, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

11:00 a.m.-11:10 a.m. – Cultural performance by the Kwakwaka'wakw Dancers, a collective from the traditional territories of the Kwak'wala speaking peoples on Northern Vancouver Island, Canada

11:10 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Plenary Segment

List of Speakers

- Statements by Member States and Observers of the General Assembly
- Statements by Indigenous Peoples Representatives of the seven socio-cultural regions
- Remarks by the Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Remarks by the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Remarks by the Chairperson of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (*Interspersed with statements by Member States and Observers of the General Assembly*)
- United Nations entities

3:00 p.m.-5:45 p.m. – Plenary Segment (continued)

List of speakers (*continued*)

Closing Segment (*immediately following the plenary segment*)

- Cultural performance by indigenous artists from Ecuador
- Closing remarks by H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the General Assembly