



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, reading '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