PRESS RELEASE

NHRIs key actors to drive implementation of Declaration of Indigenous Peoples says UN expert body on Indigenous Peoples

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are key partners of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) and key national actors to bring the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) home, said EMRIP Chairperson Albert Kwokwo Barume at today's interactive dialogue on EMRIP's annual report to the HRC 36th session.

Defensor of Ecuador Ramiro Rivadaneira speaking on behalf of GANHRI welcomed EMRIP's suggestion to maintain the interactive dialogue with NHRIs as a regular item on EMRIP's agenda. “NHRIs are key partners in promoting the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples” he said during the debate.
To further strengthen the collaboration, GANHRI offered the following suggestions:

- To take into consideration the information that NHRI\r\ns can provide for the preparation of EMRIP's annual studies.
- To disseminate the good practices and lessons learned by NHRI\r\ns on efforts to achieve the purposes of the Declaration.
- To request the collaboration of NHRI\r\ns to obtain reliable information on the situation in country and to facilitate dialogue among all parties.

"EMRIP sincerely believe that the declaration need to be a home-grown debate. NHRI\r\ns, as key national actors to this debate will have to own that instrument."

Albert Kwokwo Barume, Chair of EMRIP

GANHRI renews its commitment to EMRIP and in support of indigenous peoples because in this mission NHRI\r\ns will not leave anyone behind.

Download the full statement in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.
Background:

The Human Rights Council in its resolution 33/25 renewed the mandate of EMRIP, including by expressly encouraging the Expert Mechanism to enhance its engagement with NHRI. At its tenth session in July 2017, EMRIP held an interactive dialogue with NHRIs and regional human rights mechanisms to discuss their role and experiences to promote and protection the rights of indigenous peoples. The main findings of the panel discussion are reflected in the EMRIP report to the HRC 36.

11 July 2017 – Commissioner: Norma Inés Aguilar León (NHRI Mexico), Mohna Ansari (NHRI Nepal) and Karen Johansen (NHRI New Zealand) sharing their national experiences during EMRIP 10th session in Palais des Nations, Geneva.