

ACHPR/Res.51(XXVIII)00: RESOLUTION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/COMMUNITIES IN AFRICA

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights meeting at its 28th Ordinary Session in Cotonou, Benin from 23rd October to 6th November 2000,

- **Recalling** that at its 26th Ordinary Session held in Kigali, Rwanda, it constituted a Committee made up of 3 Commissioners to further consider the issue of Indigenous People in Africa and advise accordingly;

- **Having reconsidered** the issue and its

implications; Resolves to:

1. **Establish** a working group of experts on the rights of indigenous or ethnic communities in Africa ;
2. **Set up** a working group constituted of 2 members of the African Commission, one of whom should be designated as convenor and 2 African experts in the field of human rights or indigenous issues;
3. **Assign** the following mandate to the working group:
 - a. Examine the concept of indigenous people and communities in Africa;
 - b. Study the implications of the African Charter on Human Rights and well being of indigenous communities especially with regard to:
 - *the right to equality (Articles 2 and 3);*
 - *the right to dignity (Article 5);*
 - *protection against domination (Article 19);*
 - *on self-determination (Article 20); and*
 - *the promotion of cultural development and identity (Article 22).*
 - c. Consider appropriate recommendations for the monitoring and protection of the rights of indigenous communities;
4. **Have** a funding proposal prepared with a view to raising donor funds to meet the costs of the work of the working group;
5. **Submit** a report at the 30th Ordinary Session of the Commission.