



General Assembly

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Agenda item 15

Culture of peace

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Peru and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: draft resolution

International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the achievement of international cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields,

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,¹ including its appeal for greater solidarity on the basis of recognition of cultural diversity, of awareness of the unity of humankind and of the development of intercultural exchanges,

Reaffirming further the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,² which addresses the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples, in particular the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs, including the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature,

Recognizing the importance of facilitating indigenous peoples' livelihoods, which may be achieved by, inter alia, the recognition of their traditions,

Mindful that the celebration of the solstice, as the embodiment of the unity of cultural heritage and centuries-long traditions, plays a significant role in strengthening the ties among peoples on the basis of mutual respect and the ideals of peace and good-neighbourliness,

¹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. V, resolution 25, annex I.

² Resolution [61/295](#), annex.



Considering that indigenous peoples celebrate various sun rituals and ceremonies, including the beginning of the new year, on the occasion of the solstice on 21 June,

Recognizing that many indigenous peoples, who belong to civilizations that have existed since ancient times, have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Bearing in mind that the solstices and equinoxes are events of particular relevance for indigenous peoples that symbolize the fertility of the land, agricultural and food production systems, cultural heritage and their millenary traditions and play a significant role in strengthening ties among indigenous peoples on the basis of mutual respect, complementarity, reciprocity and cooperation,

1. *Recognizes* 21 June as the International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice in its different manifestations;
2. *Encourages* Member States to make efforts to raise awareness of the celebration of the solstice in its different manifestations, inter alia, the Inti Raymi, the We Tripantu, the Willkakuti and Yasitata Guasú, and to organize annual events in commemoration of these celebrations, as appropriate;
3. *Invites* interested Member States, the United Nations, in particular its relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, mainly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and interested international and regional organizations, within existing resources, and non-governmental organizations to participate in events organized by Member States, indigenous peoples and communities in which the solstice is celebrated and to raise awareness in this regard;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.
