



Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative

Official Statement Of The

Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative (IWB)

On The Ongoing Conflicts Affecting The Indigenous Peoples

Of Palestine And Iran

24 April 2026

*We Who Move With The Waters Of Memory And Breathe In
The Law Of The Land Cannot Remain Silent.*

To All Whom These Presents Shall Come.

The **25th Session Of The UN Permanent Forum On Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)** Is Now Convened In New York City. The Day Prior To This Statement—On 23 April 2026—The Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative Submitted Its Formal Inputs To The UN Secretary-General's Reports On The Social And Solidarity Economy (SSE) Under General Assembly Resolution A/RES/79/213. That Submission Was The Product Of Over Two Decades Of Deliberate Legal Groundwork, International Coalition-Building, Co-operative Development, And Cultural Stewardship—Beginning With King Etnab Shaquan El-Rey©'s First Direct Contact With The United Nations In 2003. IWB Co-operative Has Not Come To This Moment Unprepared. We Have Been Building Toward It, Step By Step, Instrument By Instrument, For Over Twenty Years.

IWB Co-operative Has Also Been An Active Participant In The Month-Long UNPFII Policy Trainings Co-Organized By The UN Voluntary Fund For Indigenous Peoples, OHCHR, DOCIP, IWGIA, Land Is Life, And Nia Tero—Directly Informing The Content And Positioning Of Both The IWPT And Our SSE Submission. King Etnab Shaquan El-Rey©, HRH, Completed His First Certificate Of Training On International Human Rights Treaties And Treaty Bodies On 19 February 2026. We Speak Not From The Sidelines Of These Processes. We Speak From Within Them, As Active Catalysts And Participants.

The Indigenous World Peace Treaty (IWPT), Issued 29 March 2026, Opens With A Call: *"May All Nations, Tribes, And Indigenous Peoples Worldwide Combine Their Efforts And Build A Better World."* Today, That Call Demands We Name What Is Being Done To Our Relatives. We Are Compelled To Speak On Behalf Of The World's Indigenous Peoples Concerning The Ongoing Wars Targeting The Indigenous Peoples Of Palestine And Iran.



I. The First Treaty And The Sanctity Of Diplomacy Among Indigenous Peoples

The World's First Recorded International Treaty Was Written In **Cuneiform** On A Cylinder Seal Tablet By The Akkadian King **Naram-Sin**, Calculated To Approximately **2250 BCE In Elam Awan**—The Land Now Called **Iran**. The IWPT Honors This Covenant Explicitly: “The Treaty Of Naram-Sin Was The First Royal Treaty Of Diplomacy, And May We Establish This Peace And Friendship World Treaty In Honor Of King Naram-Sin.”

It Is No Coincidence. It Is Ancestry Speaking. The Land Of The World's First Treaty Of Peace—The Sacred Soil Of What Was Once Elam, Once Persia, Once The Cradle Of Diplomatic Civilization—Is Now Under Military Assault By The United States Of America. The Original Homeland Of International Diplomacy Is Being Bombed In Defiance Of The Very International Law It Helped Birth. This Is Not A Geopolitical Abstraction. **An Attack On Iran Is An Attack On Indigenous Peoples**. An Attack On The Land Of Naram-Sin Is An Attack On The Very Foundation Of The Treaty-Making Tradition That We, The Indigenous Peoples Of The World, Now Invoke In Establishing Our Own World Peace Treaty.

The Persian And Iranian People Hold Uninterrupted Ancestral, Cultural, And Spiritual Continuity With Their Land That Spans Thousands Of Years—Long Before The Invention Of The Modern Nation-State, Long Before The Geopolitical Chess Games Of Colonial Powers. Their Identity, Their Language, Their Sciences, And Their Diplomacy Predate Every Western Institution That Now Presumes To Judge Or Dominate Them. Under The **UN Declaration On The Rights Of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)** And ILO Convention 169, These Are Rights That Must Be Honored—Not Bombed Into Submission.

II. Palestine: Our Indigenous Relatives Must Be Free

Palestinians Are Indigenous People. They Hold Uninterrupted Ancestral, Spiritual, And Agricultural Relationships With Their Land, Language, And Traditions. Their Identity Predates Modern Political Borders And State Systems, And Their Existence Has Endured Through Centuries Of Foreign Rule, Colonization, And Forced Displacement.

As The IWB Stated In Our 2025 Statement On The Palestinian Conflict: In 1948, The Creation Of The State Of Israel—Backed By Colonial And Geopolitical Interests—Resulted In The **Nakba** (“Catastrophe”)—The Forced Expulsion And Displacement Of More Than **700,000**



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Indigenous Palestinians, The Destruction Of Over **400 Villages**, And The Permanent Exile Of Families From Their Ancestral Homelands. As The IWPT Noted When First Drafted: “The State Of Israel Was Established 14 May 1948, On Palestinian Land, With 100,000 Displaced People Who Had No Homeland Of Their Own. Yet, Israel Is Killing Off The Native Peoples Who Have Been There For Thousands Of Years.”

What Continues To Unfold In Gaza Is Not Retaliation. It Is The **Escalation Of Settler Colonial Violence**, Enabled By Global Complicity And Enforced Through Military Might. It Is The Forced Removal Of Families, The Desecration Of Land And Memory, And The Weaponization Of History. Most Egregiously, It Includes The **Deliberate Use Of Starvation As A Tactic Of War**—Cutting Off Access To Food, Water, And Humanitarian Aid In Violation Of The Most Basic Codes Of Dignity And International Law.

The IWB Reaffirms Its 2025 Legal Analysis Without Reservation: The State Of Israel Is In Direct Violation Of International Humanitarian Law, Including:

- **Customary IHL Rule 53** – Prohibiting The Starvation Of Civilians As A Method Of Warfare;
- **Additional Protocol I, Article 54 Of The Geneva Conventions** – Forbidding Attacks Against Food, Water, And Relief Supplies Essential For Civilian Survival;
- **Article 8(2)(b)(xxv) Of The Rome Statute Of The International Criminal Court** – Defining The Intentional Starvation Of Civilians As A War Crime, Especially When Coupled With The Obstruction Of Humanitarian Aid.

These Codes Are Not Symbolic—They Are Binding. To Starve A People Is To Destroy Not Only Bodies, But Culture, Community, And Future Generations.

III. The Pattern Of Colonization Must End

The IWPT Recognizes The Historical Pattern Clearly: “The Royal Proclamation Of 1763, Issued By King George III Of Britain, Explicitly Prohibited Colonial Settlement West Of The Appalachian Mountains—Not Out Of Benevolence Toward Indigenous Peoples, But To Protect British Imperial Economic And Fur Trade Interests. This Proclamation Stands As Historical Proof That Even ‘Colonial Powers’ Recognized Indigenous Land Rights When It Served Their Own Agenda, While Simultaneously Demonstrating The Calculated Nature Of Colonization As A System Designed To Exploit Rather Than Honor The Original Peoples Of This Land.”

Nothing Has Changed Except The Geography And The Weaponry. The Same Calculated Logic



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That Displaced The Indigenous Peoples Of Turtle Island Now Displaces Palestinian Families From Gaza And Wages War Upon The Ancestral Land Of The Iranian People. **Since The Public Policy Corrupt World Of Government Continues To Perpetuate This Pattern, May The Indigenous Peoples Find Peace Amongst Themselves And May We Establish Our Own Global World Peace Treaty.** (IWPT, Vs. 4.4.1.0)

The **Way Forward** Identified In The IWPT Is Not Through Public Policy And Capitalism, But **Under International Law.** Before Colonization, Indigenous Peoples Across The Americas—The Maya, Aztecs, And Incas—Operated Under An International Co-operative Economic System Called **SUSU**, Established By The Olmec Nuwbun People Thousands Of Years Ago. As The IWB SSE Submission Notes: The World's 2 Billion Co-Operators Are, In Many Respects, Catching Up To What Indigenous Peoples Have Always Known. **This Is The System We Are Reactivating. This Is The Way We Build Peace While The Colonial World Wages War.**

IV. The IWB's Declaration And Call To Action

As A Global Indigenous International Co-operative Operating In The Private Sector, As The Initiating Signatory Of The **Indigenous World Peace Treaty**—A Living, Multilateral Instrument Now Open For Autograph And Signature By Chiefs And International Tribal Council Elders Representing Nations From Across The Americas And Beyond—And As A Voice Within The 476 Million Member Worldwide Indigenous Collective And Among The More Than 2 Billion Co-Operators Actively Building A Better World, The Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative Declares:

- While Modern Western Colonial Powers Wage War Upon Indigenous Peoples, The Indigenous Peoples Of The World **Declare Their Peace And Friendship** Amongst ALL Indigenous Peoples Of The Planet Earth—including And Especially Our Palestinian And Iranian Relatives;
- We Affirm The **Right Of Return** For All Displaced Palestinians And The Inherent Right Of The Iranian People To Live Free From Foreign Military Aggression On Their Ancestral Land;
- We Call For The **Immediate End To Military Occupation**, Settler Expansion, And All Acts Of Aggression Against Indigenous And Civilian Populations In Palestine And Iran;
- We Call For **Global Recognition Of The Palestinian People's Status As Indigenous** Under UNDRIP, ILO Convention 169, And All Applicable International Instruments;
- We Call On The **UN Permanent Forum On Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)** And The **UN Security Council** To Mandate An Immediate And Binding Ceasefire In Gaza And To



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Condemn Military Aggression Against Iran As A Violation Of International Law And The Rights Of Indigenous Peoples;

- We Call For An International Movement Toward **Reparative Justice, Sacred Restoration, And Cultural Remembrance** For All Indigenous Peoples Displaced By Colonial Violence;

- We Invite All Nations, Tribes, And Peoples Of Good Will To Enter Into The **Indigenous World Peace Treaty**—A Living Document Currently Being Autographed By Indigenous Leaders Around The World—And To Stand With Us In Building A Better World Without Bigotry, Racism, Colonization, Slavery, And Hatred.

V. To The 25th Session Of The UNPFII

We Recognize That This Statement Is Being Issued At A Moment Of Extraordinary Convergence. As The **25th UN Permanent Forum On Indigenous Issues** Deliberates In New York City, The IWB Co-operative Is Simultaneously Advancing Its Work Through Multiple Complementary Mechanisms: Policy Training Participation, Formal UN Submissions, Treaty Activation, Co-operative Operations, And This Statement—All Consistent With The Layered Strategy The IWPT Calls For.

The IWPT Calls On All Indigenous Peoples To “Submit Our Shadow Reports, Show Up To The Reviews, And Activate The Special Rapporteur In All Member States.” IWB Co-operative Is Doing Exactly That—Submitting Inputs, Engaging The Mechanisms, And Bringing Forward Indigenous-Led Solutions Simultaneously. We Call On The Forum To Receive This Statement As One Such Submission: That The Wars In Palestine And Iran Are **Indigenous Rights Violations** Requiring The Urgent Attention Of Every Mechanism The United Nations Has Established To Protect Indigenous Peoples Worldwide.

As The Indigenous Lawyer Jennifer Tauli Corpuz Has Wisely Noted: *“Indigenous Peoples Are Key Actors Who Hold Solutions To The Multiple Planetary Issues Crises. Humanity Must Follow Indigenous Leadership And Wisdom If We Are To Have Any Hope Of Survival.”* The IWPT’s Co-operative Framework—Rooted In The Ancient SUSU System And Now Formally Submitted To The UN’s SSE Process—Represents Exactly This Kind Of Indigenous-Led Solution: An Economic, Legal, And Spiritual Architecture For Peace That Does Not Require The Permission Of Colonial Governments To Take Effect. **The Indigenous World Peace Treaty Is Not A Proposal. It Is A Reality Entering Into Force.**



VI. In Service To Water, Truth, And Ancestral Integrity

The **Indigenous World Peace Treaty** Declares: “We Establish This Treaty Between Ourselves, As The Original Peoples And Caretakers Of Mother Earth, To Restore Balance On The Planet Earth And Love For One Another Again. This Treaty Is Designed To Achieve Global Change And Global Unification.”

To Our Palestinian Relatives: **We See You. We Hear You. We Remember With You.** And We Walk With You Toward Renewal.

To Our Iranian Relatives—The Heirs Of Naram-Sin, The Keepers Of The World’s First Treaty Of Diplomacy: **We Stand With You.** The Land That Gave Humanity Its First Covenant Of Peace Deserves Peace In Return.

To The **2 Billion Co-Operators** Worldwide Who Are Actively Building A Better World Through Co-operative Economics, Solidarity, And Indigenous-Rooted Values: This Is Your Call As Well. The IWPT Is Open. Indigenous Leaders Around The World Are Signing It Now. The Treaty Is Alive And Moving. **Let’s Build A Better World.**

VII. An Invitation To All Who Stand For Peace

This Statement Is Not Only A Declaration—It Is A Doorway. If You Are An Individual, A Community, A Nation, Or An Organization That Resonates With Peace, And With The Inherent Right Of Indigenous Peoples To Choose And Assert Peace For Themselves, We Invite You To Take One Concrete Step:

Sign The Covenant Of Witness And Solidarity (COWAS), The Companion Covenant To The Indigenous World Peace Treaty.

The COWAS Is Open To **Everyone**—Indigenous Or Non-Indigenous, Co-operator Or First-Time Ally, Individual Or Institutional. To Sign, Simply Email info@iwb.coop With The Subject “COWAS” And You Will Be Sent A Secure Link Via Adobe Sign Containing The Full Covenant For Your Signature. Your Name Will Be Received As A Witness To This Moment In History And As A Co-Creator Of The Peace We Are Building Together.



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To Read The Full Text Of The **Indigenous World Peace Treaty (IWPT V4.4.1.0)**—A Living Document Currently Being Autographed By Indigenous Leaders And Allies Around The World —Visit: <https://buildabetterworld.iwb.coop>.

“This Treaty Is For Those Who Genuinely Want Change And Are Serious About Coming Together. We Affirm That We Will Work Together With All Member Nations And Parties Of This World Treaty.” (IWPT, V4.4.1.0)

That Invitation Is Extended To You—Now, In This Moment, From This Document—Carried On The Four Winds To Every Place Necessary To Shift The Paradigm Toward Greater Peace And Prosperity For All.

In Service To Water, Truth, And Ancestral Integrity,

Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative (IWB)

King Etnab Shaquan El-Rey©, HRH

Diplomat And Plenipotentiary, Founder & Trustee

Olmec Nation | Worldwide Indigenous Congress (WIC) | Olmec Empire Of Olman/Ulman

Indigenous Water Bank Co-operative | 24 April 2026

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*This Statement Is Issued In Alignment With The Indigenous World Peace Treaty (IWPT V4.4.1.0, 29 March 2026),
The IWB Statement On The Palestinian People (7 August 2025),
And The IWB Inputs To The UNSG Report On SSE (A/RES/79/213, Submitted 23 April 2026).
ILO Convention 169 | UNDRIP | ILO Convention 193 | Roerich Peace Pact 1935 | All Applicable Instruments Of
International Law.*