



Invitation to Apply for Participation

Greetings of Peace and Solidarity.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with the support of Tebtebba Foundation and the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), will be conducting a regional consultation for Asia and the Pacific on the issue of Free Trade Agreements and Bilateral Investment Treaties (International Investment Agreements or IIAs for brevity) on 2-3 May 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The **Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on International Investment Agreements and Indigenous Peoples** is part of the follow through activities that the Special Rapporteur is conducting to continue with her earlier study and report submitted to the UN Human Rights Council in August 2015¹. It will look into the regional landscape and national legal frameworks on IIAs and the repercussions on the rights of indigenous peoples especially on their right to self-determination and to their lands and territories. The outcome of the consultation will feed into a supplemental report that the Special Rapporteur will submit to the HRC in the middle of this year.

The participants to the consultation are expected to share data, information or case studies in relation to IIAs and indigenous peoples in the Asia-Pacific region or on any country within the region and contribute to the development of analysis and recommendations. The concept note is attached for your further reference.

Kindly signify your interest to join the consultation by filling up the application form and reverting back to us on or before **15 April 2016**, to prabin@aippnet.org or manjabayang@gmail.com.

A limited budget is available for selected participants although self-funded participants are most welcome. Another form is attached for those who will be requesting for support for participation. The exact venue and other information about the consultation will be communicated at a later date.

Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz
UN Special Rapporteur on the
Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Joan Carling
Secretary General
Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

¹ Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of indigenous peoples on the impact of international investment and free trade on the human rights of indigenous peoples, A/70/301.