

World Amazigh Congress ratification of the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations

WHEREAS we, the representatives of the **World Amazigh Congress**, declare:

- A. The Amazigh tribes of North Africa, specifically Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, the Canary Islands and to a lesser extent in Mauritania, northern Mali, northern Niger, Burkina Faso and Egypt's Siwa Oasis, have lived on their lands for over four thousand years and have fished, hunted and gathered throughout these areas the entire time.
- B. The World Amazigh Congress, the oldest and largest national organization for Amazigh independence, is an international organization that aims to protect and promote awareness of the Amazigh identity, language and culture across North Africa, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Amagazi nations, rights secured under our own laws and agreements with the Amazigh nations and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitutions of the Amazigh.
- C. The World Amazigh Congress agrees with the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations (ICRIN) that "Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters related to their internal and local affairs as well as the means for financing their autonomous functions."
- D. The World Amazigh Congress supports the need for a homeland for all Amazigh nations for equal rights to the states and for the primary purpose for autonomous jurisdiction over lands, natural resources and courts.
- E. World Amazigh Congress member tribes, nations and communities globally are facing human rights violations whereby Amagazi ancestral remains, funerary, sacred and other objects of cultural patrimony are exhumed, excavated, stolen, exchanged, studied or taken under duress and removed from our nations without the free, prior and informed consent of the Amazigh. This human rights violation is perpetuated through the continued possession, display, study, or profit from our ancestral remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.
- F. We seek access to and repatriation of Amagazi ceremonial objects and human remains in the possession of others through fair, transparent and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with the indigenous peoples concerned.
- G. The Amagazi continue to seek justice for this basic right to lands, resources, protection of sacred sites and artifacts and the right to justice through international justice tribunals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the World Amazigh Congress hereby formally ratifies the Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations and affirms that we, as indigenous people, are equal to all other peoples and have the right to our homelands.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of World Amazigh Congress until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the World Amazigh Congress on 21st May 2021.

[signed]

Kamira nayt Saïd

