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Agenda items 67 and 74 (c)**Security Council**
Seventy-fourth year**The situation in the temporarily occupied territories
of Ukraine****Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights
situations and reports of special rapporteurs
and representatives****Letter dated 25 June 2019 from the Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith the address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the United Nations, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and national parliaments on condemnation of violation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 67 and 74 (c), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 25 June 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to Secretary-General

Address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the United Nations, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and national parliaments on condemnation of violation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia

Confirming the position expressed in the statements and addresses of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine dated 14 May 2015, 11 May 2016, 05 October 2016, 01 March 2018, and demanding that Russia, as the invading state, ceases to violate the rights of the indigenous Crimean Tatar people, all Ukrainian citizens at the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, immediately releases political prisoners, hostages and prisoners of war, unconditionally executes the Order of the United Nations International Court of Justice dated 19 April 2017 on interim measures in Ukraine v. Russian Federation case, withdraws from the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine,

acknowledging the principle of international solidarity in protecting human rights,

affirming the commitment to the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by United Nations General Assembly Resolution [61/295](#) of 13 September 2007,

considering that the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 2019 the International Year of the Indigenous Languages,

strongly condemning the systematic and massive violations by the Russian Federation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia, including by denial of registration or proclaiming “extremist” several national societies (the Tatar Social Center, the Tartar Youth Union “Azatliq”, the Chuvash Society of National and Cultural Revival, etc.), interference with the activities of the indigenous community associations (initiation of criminal proceedings against the activist of the Tartar Youth Union “Azatliq” Mr Batyrkhan Agzamov (2019), the leader of the “Bashkort” organization Mr Fahil Alsinov (2019), detention of the activists of the Cherkess national movement Mr Ruslan Gvashev and Mr Shamsudin Neguch (2017), etc.), interference with the activities of religious associations of indigenous peoples, in particular by proclaiming extremist the sacred books of the Mari Native Religion, implementation of amendments to the Federal Law “On Education” that allow not to study the state languages of the republics of the Russian Federation in educational institutions, prohibition on the establishment and operation of political parties representing interests of indigenous peoples, neglection of the right of indigenous peoples to participate in the disposal of natural resources of the lands on which they live,

considering the numerous facts of the persecution of the representatives of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia for their political views, including for the condemnation of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and the temporary occupation of the Autonomous

Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, in particular, by sentencing to various terms of imprisonment of the leader of the Crimean Tatar “Milli Mejlis” Ms Fauzi Bairamova (2014), activist of the Tatar national movement Mr Rafis Kashapov (2015), the arrest of the well-known Chechen human rights activist Mr Oyub Titiev (2018), the dismissal of the activists that participated in mass protests in Ingushetia Ms Angela Matieva and Ms Zarifa Sautieva (2018), impeding by law enforcement agencies of the right to peaceful protest, in particular during rallies in defense of the right to receive education in the native language in Bashkortostan and Tatarstan (2017–2018), against the destruction of forests in Buriatia (2018), etc.,

expressing its concern with the lack of a transparent and fair investigation of kidnappings, killings and assassination attempts of people who defend the rights of the indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia, including with the assassination of the activist of the Cherkess youth movement “Adige-Hase” Mr Aslan Zhukov in 2010, the kidnapping of the Ingush activist Mr Rustam Lianov in 2018, the assassination of the activist of the Ingush national movement Mr Muslim Khashugov in 2018 and many others,

considering the numerous decisions and resolutions of the international organizations and parliamentary assemblies, including the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, condemning the violations of the human rights by the Russian Federation, politically and nationally motivated persecutions, and appeals for the immediate release of all illegally imprisoned persons,

the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine appeals the United Nations, national parliaments and parliamentary assemblies of the international organizations:

to condemn the actions of the Russian Federation aimed at violating and restricting the political, civil, national, religious and cultural rights of the representatives of the indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia as contradicting generally recognized principles and norms of international law,

to increase political and diplomatic pressure on the Russian Federation to terminate the policy of actual assimilation of indigenous peoples, violation of sovereignty of the autonomous republics of the Russian Federation as a form of national statehood of the indigenous peoples, as well as ensuring the full and real equality of persons belonging to the indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia,

to pay special attention to the need to protect the languages of the indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation and territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia, to demand from the Russian authorities to reestablish the opportunity of education in their native language and proper study of their native language in secondary schools in full, to remove artificial obstacles to the development of the higher education in indigenous languages,

use all available international political, diplomatic and sanction mechanisms in order to force the Russian Federation to stop its violations of human rights and freedoms, and to de-occupy the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol,

to demand from the Russian Federation the implementation of the Fourth Opinion on the Russian Federation adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe (ACFC/OP/IV(2018)001),

to apply all possible types of sanctions to the officials of the state authorities of the Russian Federation involved in the persecution of the indigenous peoples for their beliefs and activities on the promotion of the rights of the indigenous peoples,

to fully support the efforts of the representatives of the indigenous peoples aimed at protecting the rights of the indigenous peoples, preserving their identity, languages, culture and traditions.

Kyiv, 30 May 2019
