



WINDOWS TO THE WORLD:

PROTECTING INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES



Windows to the World: Protecting Indigenous Languages
Co-Hosted by Congress of Nations and States and The Can-Go Afar Foundation



September 26, 2024
1:00-2:30 PM (livestream available)
Side Event: UNGA 79



UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/74/135 established the International Decade of Indigenous Languages from 2022 to 2032, to raise awareness on the need to preserve, revitalize, and promote indigenous languages. Since 2019, efforts at the international level have continued to put the focus on the importance of indigenous languages. In May 2024, UNESCO announced it was partnering with a company to place a nano-engraved nickel plate with approximately 275 languages and art work to be placed on the moon.

While preserving and recording languages are important steps, there are also external threats that create fissures and interruptions in the language transmission process and depreciate the capacity of indigenous children to acquire knowledge. These include policies to assimilate indigenous peoples, dispossess them of their lands and resources, environmental changes, censorship, discriminatory laws and human rights violations.

This event brings together a panel of speakers from different indigenous groups and experts to discuss the importance of their languages and external factors that must be addressed during the UN Indigenous Language Decade in order to preserve, revitalize, and promote indigenous languages.

Moderator:

Warren Creates, President, Can-Go Afar Foundation and Legal Expert

Speakers:

Ahmed Youssef Mohammed, Representative, Afar Nation

Dr. Habib Ullah, Secretary-General, Arakan Rohingya National Organisation

Dr. Maureen Eke, Professor Central Michigan University

Professor Joseph Magnet, University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, Constitutional Expert and Advisor

Y Bhim Nie, Convening Council Member, Congress of Nations and States

Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bHw_uTyXR_Own2bZc53F9Q