

**АССОЦИАЦИЯ КОРЕННЫХ  
МАЛОЧИСЛЕННЫХ НАРОДОВ СЕВЕРА,  
СИБИРИ И ДАЛЬНЕГО ВОСТОКА  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**

**RUSSIAN ASSOCIATION  
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
OF THE NORTH  
(RAIPON)**



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**Специальный консультативный статус  
при Экономическом и Социальном  
Совете ООН**

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**NGO in Special Consultative Status with  
the Economic and Social Council  
of the United Nations**

**Постоянный участник  
Арктического Совета**

**Permanent Participant  
of the Arctic Council**

### **Statement of the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of Russian Federation (RAIPON) on the Arctic Council activities**

The Arctic Council is an intergovernmental forum that promotes cooperation among the Arctic States, Indigenous Peoples and other residents of the Arctic on common Arctic issues.

Permanent Participants are the essential part of the Arctic Council. Permanent Participants are six Indigenous Peoples organizations that have full right to consult on the Arctic Council's negotiations and decisions and make a valuable contribution to its work in all areas. The Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of Russia (RAIPON) as an authorized representative of Indigenous small-numbered peoples of Russia has a Permanent Participant status.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, seven of the eight Member States of the Arctic Council reported that their participation in this international structure was paused.

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022, seven of the eight Member States of the Arctic Council announced a limited resumption of the Arctic Council project activities without Russia's participation.

The All-Russian public organization "The Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of Russian Federation" (RAIPON)

committed to maintaining the Arctic as a zone of peace, stability and constructive cooperation;

committed to the need for cooperation in the Arctic to address common challenges across the region;

emphasizing that all the projects of the Arctic Council affect Indigenous Peoples:

1. Hopes for a return to full-fledged cooperation of the Arctic Council in its entirety. For 26 years, the Arctic Council has played a major role in the development of the *High North* region and has proved its viability and resilience to geopolitical “turbulence”.
2. Expresses its conviction that the inviolable principle of consensus remains in the Arctic Council – make decisions affect Indigenous Peoples with full consultation with the Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council.
3. Notes that decisions of seven of the eight Member States to pause their participation and then partially resume the Arctic Council’ projects without Russia were not discussed with the Permanent Participants, and made without their involvement.
4. Consider our inalienable right to continue the cooperation with the Arctic Indigenous Peoples organizations.
5. Supports the Government of the Russian Federation in continuing to implement the commitments made and the events planned for the Russia’s Arctic Council Chairmanship, especially with regard to advancing the interests of Indigenous peoples of the region. We underline that Russian projects remain open to all Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic.
6. Remains committed to advancing the sustainable development of the Arctic, balanced in its environmental, social and economic dimensions. Sustainable development is an important condition for improving the well-being of all inhabitants of the region, including Indigenous Peoples, the quality and standard of life, as well as the sustainability of the Arctic communities.
7. Notes the importance of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages launched by the United Nations. In this regard, the Arctic Indigenous Peoples cooperation on the preservation and development of their indigenous languages and culture, traditional knowledge and traditional values has augmented its importance.