

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR CONFERENCE

RESOLUTION 98-13

REGARDING A FULL MEASURE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS prior to admission of Alaska as a state of the United States, Article 73 of the United Nations Charter required that Alaska Natives be allowed to attain full and final self-determination and to have the option to choose to exercise a full measure of self-government; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Natives were denied the right to self-determination and the option to choose to exercise self-government when Alaska was admitted as a state without full compliance with Article 73 of the United Nations Charter; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Statehood Act reserved the inherent rights of Alaska's "Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts", but subsequent federal and state legislation have used national and state constitutional processes to erode and subvert those inherent rights; and

WHEREAS the same constitutional process is inherently unequal to Inuit and has placed Inuit rights at the mercy of a shifting majority in the state legislature; and

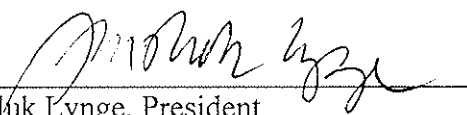
WHEREAS in accepting Article 73 of the United Nations Charter, the United States accepted as a sacred trust the obligation to promote the well-being of the indigenous peoples of Alaska, including the recognition of their interests, respect for their culture and a full measure of self-government; and

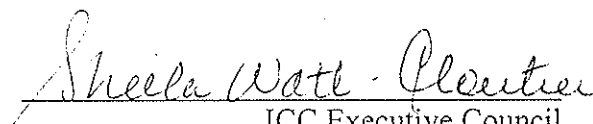
WHEREAS the United States violated that trust by avoiding the requirements of Article 73 and continues to violate that trust by using its national and state constitutional processes to erode and subvert Inuit rights;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the ICC Executive Council establish the terms of reference and conduct a review of the process whereby Alaska Inuit have been denied a full measure of self-government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the ICC Executive Council provide a preliminary written report of its findings by the next General Assembly.

Adopted by the 8th General Assembly of the ICC
Nuuk, Greenland, July 31, 1998


Aqqaluk Lyngge, President


ICC Executive Council
Ottawa, September 20, 1998