

Declaration on Arctic Sovereignty

All-Organizations meeting Kuujjuaq, Nunavik , May 23-25, 2018

ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY

Whereas the rights of the Inuit have been largely ignored by Canada and the other Arctic coastal States as they attempt to establish their sovereignty over large portions of the Arctic Ocean seabed through the law of the sea and the process set up under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);

Whereas Canada needs to recognize the rights of the Inuit with respect to the Arctic Ocean seabed;

Whereas Canada needs to be engaging with Inuit as partners in the Arctic sovereignty issues, ensuring that Inuit are fully informed and are given the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the decision-making that affects their rights;

Whereas Nunavik Inuit have rights in the marine area and islands offshore of Quebec and Labrador by virtue of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA).

It is therefore declared:

THAT Makivik be mandated to engage, in collaboration with other participating Canadian Inuit groups, with Canada to ensure that the Inuit meaningfully participate in all discussions and decisions with regards to Arctic sovereignty issues, including claims to Arctic Ocean seabed.

This Declaration was unanimously approved on this 25th day of May 2018.