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Committee: *General Assembly*

Topic: Special Session on Indigenous Affairs

Country: Kazakhstan

School: Lorne Park Secondary School

Kazakhstan is located in the crossroads of Europe and Asia. It is next to the Caspian Sea and borders Russia. Kazakhstan has a Presidential Republic. Currently the President is Nursultan Nazarbayev. Kazakhstan has a reported population of 17.04 Million people. (2013) It is currently a socialist country. The top trade partners export destinations of Kazakhstan are China (\$9.9B), the Netherlands (\$6.84B), Russia (\$6.68B), France (\$4.94B) and Italy (\$4.24B). The top import origins are Russia (\$13.8B), China (\$7.8B), Germany (\$2.32B), the United States (\$1.9B) and France (\$1.12B). Kazakhstan is part of the European Free Trade Association, NATO, Shanghai **Cooperation Organization**

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is a document that describes both individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples around the world. It offers guidance on cooperative relationships with Indigenous peoples to states, the United Nations, and other international organizations based on the principles of equality, partnership, good faith and mutual respect. It addresses the rights of Indigenous peoples on issues such as: culture, identity, religion, language, health, education, community. Kazakhstan is part of Minority Rights Group International which has distinguished their minority groups including indigenous groups as well as races and nationalism. MRGI supports minority and indigenous people as they strive to maintain their rights, the land they live on, the languages they speak, equal opportunities in education and employment, and full participation in public life.

Kazakhstan has worked with Cornell Law School to have a National Identity building policy. This document explains how Kazakhstan has worked to maintain indigenous rights in different ethnic groups. It has been studied and perfected for further use. My delegation proposes creating the Native Office for Development (NOD) to work with natives and ethnic groups in order to make sure that they have basic needs in their community as well as strive to maintain their languages and avoid these languages from disappearing.