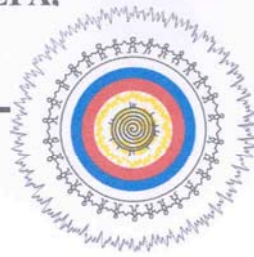


**АССОЦИАЦИЯ КОРЕННЫХ
МАЛОЧИСЛЕННЫХ НАРОДОВ СЕВЕРА,
СИБИРИ И ДАЛЬНЕГО ВОСТОКА
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**

Специальный консультативный статус
при Экономическом и Социальном
Совете ООН

Постоянный участник
в Арктическом Совете



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

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

Permanent Participant
to the Arctic Council

Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)

Date: 22.11.2005 # 692

Letter of Support

The Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) supports the project "Monitoring of oil development in traditional indigenous lands of the Nenets Autonomous Okrug" which has been promoted as an IPY project by the Norwegian Polar Institute and the Association of Nenets People "Yasavey".

The Association of Nenets People "Yasavey" is a regional chapter of RAIPON, but it carries out independent work in the Nenets region. It has successfully carried out and is carrying out various kinds of projects related to indigenous peoples of the North.

The cooperation of the Association "Yasavey" with the Norwegian Polar Institute at a regional level is expected to generate experiences, which can be applied to other residence areas of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation.

Furthermore, the intensive opening up of natural resource exploitation in indigenous peoples' lands makes this project most critical at the present moment.

We feel that the realisation of this project will give the indigenous peoples of the Nenets Autonomous Okrug – and other related communities – an instrument to monitor and gain control of the opening up of oil fields which affect the indigenous peoples. Publicity and access to information through the Internet is conditional for gaining control of the situation.

This project proposal is important and RAIPON considers its realisation to be extremely necessary.

Respectfully,
Pavel Sulyandziga
First Vice President
RAIPON