

July 14, 2010

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton,

We understand the U.S. Department of State is currently reviewing the United States' position on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and offer this comment for consideration.

Calvert has been a leader in the field of sustainable and responsible investing (SRI) for over 25 years, demonstrating that investors may manage risk and enhance long-term portfolio performance by investing in well-governed, sustainable and responsible companies. Based in Bethesda, MD, Calvert manages 51 mutual funds, including 24 funds that apply sustainability criteria. As of June 12, Calvert currently manages over \$14 billion in assets for over 400,000 shareholders.

We believe that the Indigenous Peoples in the U.S. and elsewhere around the globe deserve the affirmation and recognition of the broad array of rights set forth in the Declaration, including those related to self-determination, culture, land and natural resources, means of subsistence, treaty rights, non-discrimination, health and social services, protection of sacred sites, education and language. All these are rights which Indigenous Peoples themselves have identified as necessary to their survival, well-being and dignity—rights which the international community should fully embrace.

We believe that recognizing the Declaration is particularly important for the United States, especially since it was only one of four countries to vote against UNDRIP at the time of its original adoption by the United Nations. The creation of this United Nations' document marked the first time it had been drafted directly by, and with input from, the rights-holders themselves – the Indigenous Peoples. A compilation of over 30 years of work by Indigenous nations, many living within U.S borders, UNDRIP recognizes the collective and individual rights of 370 million people worldwide. The Declaration sets minimum standards for the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples, calls for the maintenance and strengthening of their cultural identities, and emphasizes their right to pursue development in a manner that is aligned with their own needs and aspirations. It also prohibits discrimination against Indigenous Peoples and promotes their full participation in all matters that concern them.

We believe that the rights highlighted in UNDRIP are consistent with a range of international human rights instruments already ratified by the United States, including the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on

the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and more than 400 nation-to-nation treaties with Indigenous Nations. According to the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, human rights and dignity are inalienable and UNDRIP clarifies and builds on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. UNDRIP also provides a framework for problem solving and conflict resolution.

We understand that the Declaration is non-binding, but believe it is an important marker in recognizing the rights that Indigenous Peoples have to live their own lives according to their traditional values and beliefs. Affirming the Declaration would also be the first step toward the development of binding international legal protection for the rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration could help provide much needed change in the areas of trust management, tribal property rights and treaty implementation. Many Indian nations are already facing extreme violations of their rights as are other Indigenous Peoples worldwide. Support and recognition by the U.S. Government of UNDRIP could help address these issues.

As sustainable and responsible investors, Calvert regularly engages with companies on environment, social and governance-related issues where shareholder value is at stake and improved performance is within reach. In 1999, we were the first U.S. firm to develop stand-alone formal criteria to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and provide support to American Indians and Indigenous Peoples in Corporate America and the board room. We continually engage with companies to demonstrate best practices and consider operations and relevant perspectives as it affects the lives, culture and traditions of Indigenous Peoples. For example, ExxonMobil has referenced UNDRIP in its human rights policy framework and industry groups such as the Forest Stewardship Council have included adherence to Free, Prior and Informed Consent in their membership requirements. We believe that having U.S. support for UNDRIP would allow more companies to be responsive to our requests to develop policies and programs to promote Indigenous Peoples' rights or to publicly disclose those that are already established as a model for others.

Thank you for undertaking this review and reconsideration by the United States regarding whether to support UNDRIP. As a country containing a large population of Indigenous Peoples and their nation states, we believe their voices need to be heard and acknowledged and that their rights deserve to be recognized. As a sustainable and responsible investment firm, we support the premises and protections offered by UNDRIP and we believe the United States should do no less. We strongly urge the U.S. Department of State and the United States to endorse formally and publicly UNDRIP and also provide specific plans for its implementation.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Krumsiek  
President and CEO