**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALTERNATIVE REPORT TO CERD**

**91 SESSION – REVIEW OF URUGUAY**

**CHARRÚA NATION COUNCIL - CONACHA**

The present document has been elaborated by the Council of the Charrúa Nation, an indigenous organization of national scope that groups eight indigenous communities

from different parts of the country.

In Uruguay, the situation with respect to its indigenous population is somewhat peculiar. The Uruguayan State was established on the basis of the genocide of the Charrúa people, carried out by the first Uruguayan government in 1831, but to this date, it has not recognized it as such.

Today, the indigenous organizations of Uruguay are in a process of recovery of its culture and a strengthening of its identity, which puts into question the myth of their extinction.

Although Uruguay has voted in favor of the United Nations Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, it does not officially recognize the existence and pre - existence of its indigenous peoples, it has not ratified ILO Convention 169, it has no national or constitutional indigenous legislation, and it does not have specific national public policies directed towards indigenous peoples.

According to the National Institute of Statistics, the results of the 2011 Census establish that a 5% of the Uruguayan population acknowledges indigenous ancestry, what is equivalent to 159.319 people, and a 2.4% considered indigenous ancestry as their main ancestry, what is equivalent to 76.472 people.

For all these reasons, we suggest the members of the CERD make the following recommendations to the Uruguayan State:

1. To ratify the ILO Convention No. 169 as soon as possible.

2. To recognize constitutionally the ethnic and cultural pre-existence and the current existence of the indigenous peoples of Uruguay and their collective rights, such as territorial, social, cultural and environmental rights, and the right to autonomy and self-determination, among others.

3. To recognize the genocide and the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Uruguayan State against the Charrúa People, in the period from 1831 to 1834.

4. To produce, publish and disseminate a report on the socio-demographic situation of the indigenous population of Uruguay, based on the disaggregated data provided by both the 2011 National Census and the Continuous Home Surveys.

5. To comply with Law 18.589, that declares April 11 as "Charrúa Nation and Indigenous Identity Day".

6. Mainstream the indigenous rights approach to the existing gender, educational, environmental, disability, agricultural, sexual diversity, marginality and punitive public policies.

7. Give full compliance to the 18.437 General Law of education, especially with regard to the elimination of discriminatory stereotypes of indigenous peoples from the textbooks that reproduce the idea that indigenous peoples do not currently exist in Uruguay, emphasizing the teaching of their historical legacy and its currency.