The articles of the Declaration set out the rights indigenous peoples have, as well as States’ responsibilities to respect and protect those rights. Indigenous peoples have the right to:

1. All human rights, including collective rights
2. Equality and non-discrimination
3. Self-determination
4. Autonomy or self-government
5. Their own institutions
6. A nationality

7. Life, liberty and security
8. Protection from cultural destruction or assimilation
9. Belong to indigenous communities or nations
10. Freedom from forced removal from their lands
11. Their culture and cultural property
12. Their spiritual and religious customs
13. Their languages, stories and names
14. Education, including in their own language
15. The dignity and diversity of their culture
16. Their own media and equal access to all other media
17. Protection in employment
18. Participation in decisions that affect them
19. Good faith consultation on laws and policies that affect them
20. Their own political, social and economic institutions and activities
21. Improvement of their economic and social conditions
22. Particular attention to the needs of elders, women, youth, children and disabled people
23. Development
24. Health, and to their traditional medicinal resources and health practices
25. Their spiritual relationship with their lands and resources
26. Recognition and protection of their lands and resources
27. Fair processes for dealing with their rights to lands and resources
28. Redress for lands and resources taken or damaged without consent
29. Environmental protection
30. Consultation before their lands are used for military activities
31. Their cultural and intellectual property
32. Use and develop their lands and resources, and consultation on projects that would affect these
33. Determine their own identity and membership
34. Their own institutions, laws and customs
35. Determine the responsibilities of individuals to their communities
36. Maintain and develop contacts across borders
37. Observance of their treaties with States

WHAT ARE THE GROUND RULES?

The Declaration is to be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, and respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance and good faith.

In the exercise of the rights set out in the Declaration, the rights and freedoms of all people must be respected. Any limitations on the rights in the Declaration must be consistent with human rights standards, and strictly necessary to protect the rights of others and society.

To view the full Declaration, visit www.hrc.co.nz.