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## Assembly of First Nations

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<http://www.afn.ca>



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July 29, 2005

Hon. Anibal Acevedo Vilá  
Governor of Puerto Rico  
PO Box 9020082  
San Juan, PR 00909-0082  
Tel: 1(787) 721-7000  
Fax: 1(787) 725-4569  
[portal@ogp.gobierno.pr](mailto:portal@ogp.gobierno.pr)

**Re: Supporting the Taíno Nation of Borikén (Puerto Rico)**

Dear Honorable Governor Anibal Acevedo Vilá:

We are writing to support the members of the Taíno Nation and People represented by the Caney Quinto Mundo, United Confederation of Taíno People and the Consejo General de Taínos Boricanos in their direct action reclaiming the sacred Caguana Ceremonial Center in Utuado, Borikén (Puerto Rico) and the rights of the island's Indigenous Peoples.

We are especially concerned with the call of the Taíno People to end the destruction and desecration of indigenous sanctuaries, archeological sites, cemeteries, ancestral remains, sacred funerary and ceremonial objects, sacred places and ceremonial centers in Puerto Rico. With this in mind, we respectfully urge you to issue an executive order to fulfill the civil, constitutional, basic human and international rights of the Taíno People of Borikén, and their right to full participation in all issues that concern and affect them.

We are aware that the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as well as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights have been notified of these developments and in solidarity we also intend to monitor this situation to insure that the human rights of the Taíno community are not further violated.

Head Office/Siège Social

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We thank you in advance for your serious attention to this matter and we look to a positive resolution.

Respectfully,

*for Lisa Mackenzie*  
Daniel McCord  
Executive Director  
International Policy and Relations