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UNION

Berne, 12 November 2018  
International Bureau Circular **159**  
UNESCO – International Year of Indigenous  
Languages

Dear Sir/Madam,

In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 71/178 on the rights of indigenous peoples, proclaiming 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages, and inviting UNESCO to serve as the lead agency for this event.

This International Year provides a major opportunity to raise awareness throughout the world of the loss of indigenous languages and the need to preserve, revitalize and promote them.

UNESCO wishes to invite UPU member countries to get involved in this International Year by issuing a commemorative stamp in 2019. This would not only raise the visibility of the International Year of Indigenous Languages, but also help to communicate the messages associated with this event throughout the world.

We therefore invite all UPU member countries to participate actively in the events planned for 2019.

For more information on the International Year of Indigenous Languages, UNESCO invites UPU member countries to visit the special website at [www.iyil2019.org](http://www.iyil2019.org). Dr Irmgarda Kasinkaite-Buddeberg ([i.kasinkaite@unesco.org](mailto:i.kasinkaite@unesco.org), +33 1 45 68 16 45), Programme Specialist with UNESCO's Communication and Information Sector, will also be happy to answer any questions you have about this project.

Yours faithfully,

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Director of Logistics