RUNASIMI (Quechua) is the Inka language still spoken by the descendants of this ancient civilization. The Inka empire was called TAWANTINSUYU (the Four Quarters) and extended from modern Colombia thru Tierra del Fuego. The Four Quarters are: NorthEast: Antisuyu, SouthEast: Qollasuyu, SouthWest: Kuntisuyu and NorthWest: Chinchaysuyu. Yachay Wasi means House of Learning in Quechua.

From Mr. Achim Steiner, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme:

“The Billion Tree Campaign is delighted to partner with Yachay Wasi. This initiative will assist in conserving the health of vast fresh water lakes which support communities and wildlife alike. The economic and environmental imperative to restore lost and damaged ecosystems from forests and freshwater to mangroves and wetlands can no longer be ignored if we want growth through job generation and poverty alleviation, all of which are so needed to deliver sustainability in the 21st century.” (July 2010)

**RECOVERY OF THE CIRCUIT OF FOUR LAKES**

***A Water and Sanitation Project***

and **Planting Native Trees in Peru Andes***

- **A Water and Sanitation Project**
  - First Phase
  - Lakes Acopia & Pomacanchi
  - 2007 - 2008
- **Planting High Altitude Native Trees**
  - during the rainy season
  - First Stage 2008-2009
  - Second Stage 2009-2010
  - Third Stage 2010-2011

**BIODIVERSITY COP-10 in Nagoya, Japan**

18 thru 29 October, 2010

Luis Delgado Hurtado, President of Yachay Wasi, speaks at a Side event of COP-10 organized by the Secretariat of the Biodiversity Convention and UNESCO (see pg 6)

**Forum on CLIMATE CHANGE in Almaty, Kazakhstan**

1 thru 4 November 2010

Sandra Ramos Delgado, Yachay Wasi Alternate Representative to the United Nations, gives key note speech at Forum organized by the Central Asia Mountain Partnership (see pg 6)
News highlights from Yachay Wasi

In Cuzco:

Yachay Wasi representatives from Cuzco, Peru traveled to NYC in May 2010 to observe the 9th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII); President Luis Delgado Hurtado, Youth leader Sandra Ramos Delgado, now Alternate Representative to the United Nations for Yachay Wasi.

In August 2010, Yachay Wasi held its Second Local Conference on Sacred Sites: Biodiversity and Andean Spirituality in the Indigenous Andean community of Raqchi (see pg 3). The 2009 First Conference in Acopia was partially funded by the Ford Foundation, but short time planning of the Raqchi conference limited its ability to receive external funding. Yachay Wasi is planning a Third Conference in Ollantaytambo for May 2011 (see pg 4)

Yachay Wasi officers welcomed the approval by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity of Luis Delgado Hurtado’s application for funding to observe its 10th Conference of Parties (COP-10) in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010 and the opportunity to speak at a side event there. (see pgs 1 & 6)

In September 2010, Yachay Wasi received an invitation from CONDESAN, one of the main Andean partners of the Mountain Partnership with offices located in Lima, Peru, to travel to Almaty, Kazakhstan for a forum on Climate Change. Sandra Ramos Delgado represented Yachay Wasi at this event, giving opening & closing keynote speeches. (see pgs 1 & 6)

A one-week Workshop on Sustainable Tourism in Acopia in 2011 is projected. (see pg 4)

BED & BREAKFAST in Cuzco, ...all year around...(see back cover)

Luis Delgado Hurtado, who volunteers for Yachay Wasi, hosts a B & B in his home in Cuzco and guides international tourists to the wonderful sites in and around Cuzco, which include Machu Picchu.

In New York:

In May 2010, Sandra Ramos Delgado was appointed Alternate Representative to the United Nations for Yachay Wasi. This position was held in the past by Co-founder Eliane Lacroix-Hopson. Eliane, now 93, is a published writer and her contributions to this Newsletter are sorely missed.

Luis Delgado Hurtado continues as Co-founder and President. Marie-Danielle Samuel, also Co-founder and Vice-President, remains the Main Representative to the United Nations.

Yachay Wasi “RECOVERY OF THE CIRCUIT OF FOUR LAKES”, a Water and Sanitation project in Peru Andes, selected in 2008 as a Best Practice in Sustainable Development by UN ECOSOC NGO Section, and its ongoing Campaign of a Million Native Trees in Peru Andes earned a Quote in July 2010 from Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). See First page.

This quote was provided by Ms Meryem Amar, Coordinator of the UNEP Billion Trees Campaign in Nairobi, Kenya who also included Yachay Wasi work in the 2009 UNEP Annual Report. Photo of the 2009 First stage of Planting was featured on pg 35 of the Report.

On 22 May 2010, Yachay Wasi presented a side event during the Ninth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at UN Hqrs in NYC. It was hosted by UNEP NY Office. It featured a DVD of the Conference “SACRED SITES: Biodiversity and Andean Spirituality” held in the Andean village of Acopia, Peru in April 2009. (see pg 6)

This DVD and subsequent Power Point Presentation by Luis Delgado Hurtado led to his Invitation to speak at the International Conference on Biological and Cultural Diversity for Development in Montreal, Canada. Conference was co-sponsored by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity and UNESCO. (see pg 6)
During the International Year of Biodiversity

SACRED SITES: BIODIVERSITY and ANDEAN SPIRITUALITY

A Conference organized by Yachay Wasi
in Raqchi, Dept of Cuzco, Peru - 9 thru 11 August 2010

Responding to the requests from the representatives of several Andean Indigenous communities attending the Yachay Wasi 2009 Conference in Acopia, Peru, Yachay Wasi organized the Second local Conference on SACRED SITES: BIODIVERSITY AND ANDEAN SPIRITUALITY in the Andean village of Raqchi, Province of Canchis, Department of Cuzco, Peru from 9 thru 11 August 2010.

Two hours drive from Cuzco, Raqchi is located at an altitude (3,450 meters – 11,319 feet). Residents of this Indigenous community speak Quechua and some Spanish.

The August 9 International Day of World’s Indigenous Peoples was commemorated with a Sacred Ceremony to the Apus.

This Conference continued to expand on the importance of Indigenous Sacred sites and the protection of Biodiversity. It also informed on the work of the United Nations on behalf of Indigenous Peoples including the recently adopted Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (see pg 7). Ongoing Yachay Wasi Water and Sanitation project and Campaign of Planting native trees in Circuit of Four Lakes were also discussed.

The Conference was opened by Sr. Luis Beltran Gamarra, President of the Community of Raqchi. Archeologist Ruben Orrellana Neira spoke on Sacred Sites, Biologist Percy Nunez Vargas on Biodiversity and Anthropologist Dr. Jorge Flores Ochoa (who participated in 2009 Acopia conference) on Andean spirituality.

Members of the Organizing Committee were:
Luis Delgado Hurtado, President of Yachay Wasi; Valerio Champi; Monica Valenzuela, Biologist; Sandra Ramos Delgado and Rene Ramos.

Recorded attendance was 66, mostly from Raqchi. All received a Certificate of Participation and various documents including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Spanish, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in Quechua, information on the International Day from the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and Information on the Mountain Partnership of which Yachay Wasi is a member.

Event took place in Raqchi Salon Comunal.

Report can be found at http://www.yachaywasi-ngo.org/Raqchi

Luis Delgado Hurtado addressing conference

Registration

Biologist Monica Valenzuela Perez assists with registration

Raqchi leader Enrique Cusi Mamani (standing photo right) performs ceremony. Bundle was offered to the Apus thru fire.

Organizers Luis (back) left, Sandra (Lt blue shirt center), Monica (brown shirt right) and Rene (dark shirt 3rd row right)

Dr. Flores Ochoa gives Certificate to participant
YALE UNIVERSITY WILL RETURN MACHU PICCHU ARTIFACTS

Yale University and the Peruvian government signed a memorandum of understanding on Nov. 23, 2010 that states that the University will return a set of Inca artifacts held in New Haven for nearly 100 years before Dec. 31, 2012. The agreement also outlines plans for future collaboration between Peru and Yale to preserve and continue research on the artifacts.

A Yale delegation traveled to Peru to inspect the location that will house artifacts discovered at Machu Picchu when the University starts to return the items in March 2011.

The delegation - consisting of Yale professor Richard Burger and Peabody Museum curator Lucy Salazar and two members of Yale's legal counsel from the United States and Peru - met with the rector of the National University of San Antonio Abad in Cusco. The group came to discuss Yale's future collaboration with the university in Cusco, as well as arrangements for permanently housing the artifacts at a new institution the Peruvian University will build.

Yale Daily News
December 19, 2010

Peru plans to build museum for Machu Picchu artifacts

Peruvian Culture Minister Juan Ossio Acuña has announced plans to build the "Great Museum of Tahuantinsuyo" to permanently house and display the artifacts from Machu Picchu.

The museum would be built on a 21,000 square meter land owned by the National University of San Antonio Abad in Cusco. Minister Ossio stated that Cusco needs a great archaeological museum and the Cusco-based university has the appropriate place to house not only these artifacts, but also others from the Inca culture.

The minister also welcomed the government's decision to name 2011 the “Year of Machu Picchu’s Centennial to the World” as this will further promote the UNESCO heritage site across the world.

The Casa Concha, a manor house in the heart of Cusco, will temporary house the ancient objects when the U.S. university starts to return the items in March 2011.

Andina – Agencia Peruana de Noticias - 3 January 2011

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
in the Circuit of Four Lakes

Yachay Wasi is planning a Training Workshop in the village of Acopia on the concept of SUSTAINABLE TOURISM. (date to be announced)

Contrary to Ecotourism which uses Indigenous and local communities to benefit international businesses under the guise of protecting the environment, Sustainable Tourism is implemented by Indigenous and local communities which benefit from it.

This ethical concept was developed by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in 1999 when its 7th session focused on Sustainable Tourism. It has long been forgotten.....
SECOND STAGE OF PLANTING

During the rainy season in January 2010, the Second Stage of the Campaign was implemented: under the leadership of Yachay Wasi, 6,350 native trees were planted near Laguna Acopia and the village of Santo Domingo by the Indigenous communities of Acopia and Santo Domingo. Laguna Acopia is part of the Circuit of Four Lakes (see pg 4)

Native trees selected are high altitude species: Chachacomo, Qeuña and Qolle.
A large portion of the funding for the saplings bought from nurseries in Cuzco is donated by the general public around the world, at $ 1.00 per tree, with amounts ranging from $5.00 to $300.00. Yachay Wasi purchase additional saplings on credit.

Fund raising was just completed for the THIRD STAGE OF PLANTING which will take place in January-February 2011.
Yachay Wasi’s road to Nagoya....

NEW YORK: During the Ninth Session of UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in May 2010 at UN Hqrs in New York City, Yachay Wasi sponsored a Side Event entitled “During the 2010 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY: Biodiversity and Spirituality in the High Andes”, as Indigenous Sacred sites are concrete symbols of the unity of Indigenous spirituality and the environment.

In April 2009, Yachay Wasi organized a Conference in the Andean village of Acopia, Dept of Cuzco, Peru which was attended by local and remote communities in the High Andes (see Yachay Wasi newsletter Winter 2009-2010). A DVD of the highlights of this conference “Sacred Sites: Biodiversity and Andean Spirituality” was shown.

Event was hosted by the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme and its Director Juanita Castaño opened the meeting. Other speakers were Elisa Canqui Mollo, Member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Luis Delgado Hurtado, President of Yachay Wasi, and Sandra Ramos Delgado, member of Yachay Wasi, both from Cuzco, Peru.

Acopia Conference DVD is currently available at www.mountainpartners.org

MONTREAL: Following this presentation, Luis Delgado Hurtado was invited to speak on the same subject during the June 2010 International Conference on Biological and Cultural Diversity for Development in Montreal, Canada.

The funded invitation came from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD). Conference was co-sponsored by CBD and UNESCO.

UNESCO and CBD have joined forces to study and tackle the threats hanging over cultural and biological diversity. This joint programme is a result of the Montreal Conference which brought together scientists, representatives of Indigenous and local communities, politicians, NGOs, intergovernmental agencies and environmentalists.

This programme was submitted for adoption to the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Nagoya, Japan. (Ref. W. Ederlen, ADG for Natural Sciences, UNESCO - A World of Science - September 2010)

Montreal Conference website www.cbd.int/meetings/icbcd

NAGOYA: Subsequently, Luis Delgado Hurtado was funded by the Convention on Biological Diversity Voluntary Trust Fund to participate in COP-10, the Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan from 18 to 29 October 2010.

He was one of the main speakers in a Panel “Towards a Joint Programme on Biological & Cultural Diversity” organized by CBD and UNESCO. COP-10 Final Report. Parag.16 of Decision X/20 “Notes the 2010 Declaration on Bio-cultural Diversity and welcomes the joint programme of work between UNESCO and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as useful coordination mechanism to advance the implementation of the Convention and deepen global awareness of the inter-linkages between cultural and biological diversity and invites Parties and other relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the implementation of this joint programme.” www.cbd.int/cop10/doc

Forum on CLIMATE CHANGE in Almaty, Kazakhstan

Sandra Corina Ramos Delgado, Alternate Representative to the UN for Yachay Wasi, was invited to attend CAMP Forum 2010 - a learning and knowledge sharing event titled “Mountain communities of Central Asia and Climate change – Call to action: Global challenges in local perspectives” meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 4-6 November 2010, at the hotel-resort ‘Altyn-Kargaly’.

Ms. Ramos Delgado, who is from Cuzco, Peru, delivered a keynote speech and presentation on the topic of Peru’s case of local level adaptation to climate change and shared the Andean mountains Indigenous communities experiences.

The Forum 2010 goal was to consolidate international, national and regional level efforts of coping and adapting to changing climate by providing a platform for shared learning and discussion of the challenges and opportunities for adapting to changes.

Yachay Wasi is a Member of the Mountain Partnership and was asked to send a representative to this event by CONDESAN (Consortio para el Desarrollo Sostenible de La Ecorregion Andina) In Lima, Peru. CAMP (Central Asia Mountain Partnership) website: www.camp.kg/index.php?lang=english

International Tennis: While in Nagoya, Luis Delgado was able to indulge his passion for tennis, as he played with some of the local athletes.

Luis has won awards in Cuzco and Arequipa and, when in NYC, plays in Central Park and in Inwood courts. Lack of funds and time has slowed down his goal of teaching this sport to the children of his Andean community.

International players who want to volunteer some of their time to teach these children should contact Luis at yachaywasi@nyc.rr.com
The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 2007. Four countries – New Zealand, Australia, Canada and the United States -- voted against the adoption.

Australia reversed its decision in April 2008.

On 19 April 2010, opening day of the ninth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UN PFII), Pita Sharples, Minister of Maori Affairs of New Zealand, told correspondents at a UN press conference that the Government of New Zealand was now in support of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

“The document is aspirational and sets standards for all peoples,” Mr. Sharples said. He added that the Maori people were “relieved and happy” about the Government’s commitment to the Declaration without any conditions, a decision that he believed would restore New Zealand’s manner in addressing issues of human rights and indigenous rights throughout the world. The Government’s decision to support the Declaration also reflected the impact and influence the newly developed Maori Party had on Government issues.

(UN Press Release HR/5012)

On 20 April 2010, Ambassador Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, addressed UN PFII and closed her statement with “Thus today, I am pleased to announce that the United States has decided to review our position regarding the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” (USUN Press Release 064)

On 12 November 2010, Canada announced that it had advised the President of the United Nations General Assembly that it was endorsing the UN DRIP.

On 16 December 2010, US President Barack Obama opened the Second White House Tribal Nations Conference with “And as you know, in April, we announced that we were reviewing our position on the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. And today I can announce that the United States is lending its support to this declaration.”

These words followed a list of actions on behalf of Tribal Nations since the First Tribal Nations Summit in November 2009.


INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Members for the term of 2011 thru 2013

Appointed by the President of ECOSOC (nominated by Indigenous Peoples Organizations)

Ms. Mirna Cunningham, Nicaragua; Mr. Saul Vicente Vasquez, Mexico; Ms. Anna Naikanchina, Russian Federation; Mr. Edward John, Canada; Mr. Raja Devashish Roy, Bangladesh; Ms. Dalee Sambo Dorough, United States; Mr. Valmaine Toki, New Zealand; Mr. Paul Kanyinke Sena, Kenya.

Elected by ECOSOC (nominated by Governments)

Mr. Alvaro Esteban Pop, Guatemala; Mr. Andrei Nikiforov, Russian Federation; Mr. Bertie Xavier, Guayana; Ms. Eva Baudet, Finland; Ms. Helen Kalju-late, Estonia; Ms. Megan Davis, Australia; Ms. Paimaneh Hasteh, Iran; Mr. Simon William M’Viboudoulou, Congo.

On 1 December 2010, Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen took over as Chief of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Ms. Elsa Stamatopoulou, who had been Chief of this Secretariat since its establishment by the General Assembly in 2002, retired in July 2010. She ended a 31 years career at the United Nations, from lawyer in the UN legal department, to Chief of the Human Rights NY Office prior to the 1995 creation of the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights.

A strong advocate for Indigenous Rights, she spearheaded the planning of the 1993 International Year of the World’s Indigenous Peoples (IYWIP) and created in 1991 the NGO Committee for this IYWIP. It was at that time that the Co-founders of Yachay Wasi met her and worked on this Committee, leading to the creation of Yachay Wasi in 1993. Ms. Stamatopoulou left the Human Rights Office to return to the legal dept in 1996, but World Indigenous Peoples called for her successful return as the Deputy Chief of the NY office of OHCHR until her appointment to the PFII Secretariat.

World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014

On Tuesday 16 November 2010, the Third Committee of the General Assembly adopted a resolution on Indigenous peoples’ issues. The Resolution A/C.3/65/L.22/Rev.1 states:

“Decides to organize a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in 2014, in order to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of Indigenous peoples... and invites the President of the General Assembly to conduct open-ended consultations with Member States and with Indigenous peoples’ representatives in the framework of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur in order to determine the modalities for the meeting...”
All year around - $15.00 per person, per night

BED AND BREAKFAST
IN CUZCO, PERU

5 minutes walk from Plaza de Armas

Excursions in and around Cuzco available, including Saksaywaman, Tippon
Also Acopia and its Circuit of Four Lakes
and the Sacred Valley of the Inkas:
Ollantaytambo, Machu Picchu, Pisac, Chincheros...

Email: yachaywasi@nyc.rr.com
NYC phone: 212-567-6447
Cuzco phone: (51)(84) 315815

International MOUNTAIN DAY
11 December 2010

The Mountain Partnership is a voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world. Launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002, the Mountain Partnership taps the wealth and diversity of resources, information, knowledge, and expertise of its members to support positive change in mountain areas.

www.mountainpartnership.org

On 11 December 2010, the International Mountain Day was commemorated with the theme of “Mountain Minorities and Indigenous Peoples: Mountain Voices for a Sustainable Future”. The UN General Assembly designated the Day in 2003. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat is hosted by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy. Yachay Wasi is a member of the Partnership since 2009.

www.fao.org/mnts/intl_mountain_day_en.asp