We, the Inuit of Inuit Nunaat, declare as follows:

1. Inuit live in the Arctic. Inuit live in the vast, circumpolar region of land, sea, and ice known as the Arctic. We depend on the marine and terrestrial plants and animals that comprise the Arctic Ocean, the tundra and the sea. The Arctic is our home.

2. Inuit have been living in the Arctic from time immemorial. From time immemorial, Inuit have been the protectors of the circumpolar world. Inuit Nunaat, stretches from Greenland to Canada, Alaska, and the regional coast of Chukotka, Russia. Our use and occupation of Arctic lands and waters pre-date recorded history. Our unique knowledge, experience, the Arctic is our home.

3. Inuit are a people. Though Inuit live across a far reaching circumpolar region, we are united as a single people. One of our sense of unity is fostered and celebrated by the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), which represents the Inuit of Greenland, Canada, USA and Russia. As a people, we enjoy the rights of all peoples. These rights include the right to self-determination and the right to fully participate in international governance and institutions, such as the United Nations, the Inter-American System, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and others.

4. Inuit are an indigenous people. Inuit are an indigenous people with the rights and responsibilities of all indigenous peoples. These include the rights recognized in article 1, paragraph 1 (6), the right to self-determination, the right to preservation of the social, cultural, linguistic and political identity, and the right to preservation of the environment and the right to conservation of our environment and the right to participation in the political, economic, social and cultural institutions, while maintaining the right to participate fully in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the States (art. 5). The right to participate in the determination of the political or social status of the people and the right to development of their own social institutions (art. 18) and the right to maintain and develop their own cultural, political, and economic institutions, while retaining the right to fully participate in international governance and institutions such as the Inuit Circumpolar Council and the Arctic Council, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Human Rights Council; the Arctic Council; and the Organization of American States.

5. Recognition and respect for our rights to self-determination is developing in varying places and in various forms in the Arctic states in which we live. Following a resolution in November 2008, the areas of self-governance in Greenland will expanded greatly, and, among other things, Greenland’s (Kalaallit) will become Greenland’s self-sovereign coastal industries, such as the Inuit Circumpolar Council and the Arctic Council, which represents the Inuit of Greenland, Canada, USA and Russia, ensuring that the Inuit are united as a single people.

6. Inuit are an indigenous people of the Arctic. Our states, provinces, territories, regions or other political subunits, we have the rights and responsibilities a sovereign nations. We are citizens of Arctic states. Inuit are citizens of Arctic states.

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8. Inuit are an indigenous peoples of the Arctic. All of these are relevant to sovereignty and sovereign rights in the Arctic: the right to exercise self-determination over our lives, territories, cultures and languages. Inuit are citizens of Arctic states.

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10. Inuit are an indigenous people of the Arctic. Our states, provinces, territories, regions or other political subunits, we have the rights and responsibilities a sovereign nations. We are citizens of Arctic states. Inuit are citizens of Arctic states.

11. Inuit are an indigenous people of the Arctic. All of these are relevant to sovereignty and sovereign rights in the Arctic: the right to exercise self-determination over our lives, territories, cultures and languages. Inuit are citizens of Arctic states.

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