Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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For Immediate Release: April 12, 2012
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MIAMI, FLORIDA — The first government-to-government tribal consultation regarding the Indian Affairs Administrative Organizational Assessment Draft Report and Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education streamlining plans starts today at the Miccosukee Resort in Miami, Fla. The two-day consultation is the first of seven that will take place around the country in Arizona, Washington, South Dakota, Oklahoma, California and Alaska.

Tribal leaders have said that organizational changes are needed in the administration of Indian Affairs programs and services to better meet the needs of the federally recognized tribes throughout Indian Country. The Department of the Interior's Indian Affairs officials have heeded these concerns and undertaken an extensive review of the organization of the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE).

The culmination of this review is a draft Administrative Organizational Assessment Report compiled by an independent, third-party contractor. The draft report identifies several ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of services to Indian Country. The goal is to support a consolidated organization while improving Interior responsiveness to all Tribal needs. The BIA and BIE are seeking tribal input on ways to streamline their respective organizations to meet budgetary constraints and to increase efficiency.

For more information, please visit: http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/ASIA/Consultation/index.htm.

WHO:	Paul Tsosie, Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Keith Moore, Director, Bureau of Indian Education Mike Smith, Deputy Bureau Director-Field Operations, Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Leaders from the Eastern Region and other regions
WHAT:	First Regional Tribal Consultation on the Indian Affairs Administrative Organizational Assessment Draft Report and BIA- BIE Streamlining Plan.
WHEN:	Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13, 2012 Registration will begin at 7:00AM EDT Consultation will begin at 8:00AM EDT
WHERE:	Miccosukee Resort 500 SW 177th Ave. Miami, FL 33194 (866) 599-6674

CREDENTIALS: All media must present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver's license) and valid media credentials.

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