

# MESSAGE IN CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF THE CONVENTION

---

*...Imagining a Future...where...<sup>1</sup>*

*The bus(y)ness of diversity is the norm  
Where languages and sounds roll off tongues  
To reach ears attuned to their sounds of awe  
And wonder,  
Soundscapes in which imagination  
And creativity may take root in words which carry wisdoms and ways of being in the world  
To the reawakening of practices which see no division or superiority between human and human  
Between,  
Human and plant and animal  
Where reciprocity, respect, is our remembered default  
With the Question 'are we doing harm?'  
Always a prelude, not an after thought  
In our insatiable hunger for progress and modernity  
Where lives imbued and bouyed by ways of knowing which rest in deep time  
Such as those of the  
San, the Sami, just two communities  
among  
The rich tapestry of indigenous Peoples  
in the world  
Translates into urban life and well being  
Place and Belonging*

*Where the  
Experimentation with AI and technologies to extend, expand and orientate our worlds  
Does not lose sight of the technologies of old...  
Those songs which seafarers use to sing their way home  
Or pattern the weaves of a new kente cloth  
Of when to plant and when to harvest  
Ramie, cool to the skin  
Good for the earth  
Fishing baskets woven with grass, sizing of holes, just so  
So that marine life is secure  
And the planting of seeds  
Preceded by song and rituals of thanksgiving  
Remains the finest gold dust with which we  
Practice a kind of kintsugi  
An endless repairing in our worlds*

---

<sup>1</sup> Author: Deirdre Prins-Solani October 2023 ©