

alarming is the high incidence of diseases of the nervous system, circulatory system and respiratory organs, and cases of tuberculosis among peoples of the North are six times greater than the RSFSR level. This is due not only to low immunity to this disease but also to unsatisfactory social and living conditions.

The United Nations has declared 1993 the year of indigenous and threatened peoples. But the situation in our country is such that we need to declare that every year. Aboriginal people need help. A State program is needed to protect their native interests.

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Open Microphone: Ethnic Sports Needed!

If I were given the opportunity to address the congress I would bring up the following topic: "The status, problems and ways of developing traditional physical culture among peoples of the North." I consider this a very important part of spiritual culture. We need to conduct scientific research in this realm, collect ethnographic material on games, competitions, etc.; to set up at pedagogical institutes special chairs - Ethnic Games and Sports of Peoples of the North - within departments of physical education, and we need a division for the training of teacher-organizers of northern peoples physical culture in Sverdlovsk at the newly created Institute of Physical Culture. Maybe we could go even further and create an