



DEPARTMENT OF
**ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Indigenous Women's Voices of Leadership
(Contributions of indigenous women
in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action)

Tuesday, 10 March 2020

Conference room D

11:30 - 12:45

United Nations Headquarters

Simultaneous interpretation available in Spanish/English/French

Background

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995 is the most ambitious road map for the empowerment of women and girls everywhere. In 2020, it will be 25 years since the Beijing Platform for Action set strategic objectives and actions for the achievement of gender equality in 12 critical areas of concern: women and poverty, education and training of women, women and health, violence against women, women and armed conflict, women and the economy, women in power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms, human rights of women, women and the media, women and the environment, and the girl child.

Although Indigenous women were not reflected in the framework of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, it is important to highlight the contributions of indigenous women, as well the organizational advancements at the local, national, regional and global levels. Nonetheless, indigenous women around the world continue to face significant challenges that limit the full exercise and enjoyment of individual and collective rights and the achievement of equality and well-being.

The theme of the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2020 is the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. The International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI) and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) are organizing

this side event to showcase the continuous efforts and contributions that indigenous women have made at all levels in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Objectives

The main objectives are as follows:

- To share the contributions made by indigenous women's in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; and
- To identify the challenges that remain and concrete steps to achieve its full, effective and accelerated implementation.

Format

The dialogue will bring together an intergeneration and regional representation of indigenous women from Africa, the Arctic, Asia and South America, as well as representatives of Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders.

The event will begin with a spiritual ceremony led by a representative of the International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI), followed by a moderated dialogue with panelists on their work (5 minutes each). The floor will then be open for contributions and comments from participants. The moderator will wrap up and close the event.

The side event will be moderated by Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen, Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch, DISD/DESA.

Leading questions

Participating stakeholders in the side event are invited to address the following questions:

- Current situation of indigenous women globally and actions within the framework of Beijing +25;
- Indigenous women's participation in the preparation of the National level-review of implementation of the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for CSW64 – advancements and challenges;
- The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the advancement of indigenous women's rights; and
- Effective participation of indigenous women in the high-level meeting on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women (resolution 73/340).