

Questionnaire to UN system

Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) was established by Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2000/22. The Permanent Forum is mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on indigenous issues to the ECOSOC and through the Council to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes; to raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to indigenous issues with the UN system; prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues; and promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and follow up the effectiveness of the Declaration.

The Indigenous Peoples Development Branch/Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites UN system agencies, funds and programmes and other inter-governmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations, the system-wide action plan on rights of indigenous peoples (SWAP), the 2030 Development Agenda and COVID-19 recovery efforts.

The responses will be compiled into two separate reports for the 2022 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Implementation by the United Nations System; and (b) Update on the Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda. In your responses, please, include information on progress and challenges related to indigenous women, indigenous persons with disabilities, indigenous older persons, and indigenous children and youth.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DISD website on Indigenous Peoples at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/>

If you have any objections for your response to be made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **15 November 2021** to:

Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Inclusive Social Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Telephone: +1-917-367-5100
Email: indigenous_un@un.org and requesens@un.org

Questionnaire

Please provide information on the following:

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2022 session

i. Please provide information on measures taken since your last update to the Forum, on the implementation or planned implementation of the recommendations of the PFII.

In March 2021, the ILO Governing Body reviewed progress made in the implementation of the ILO strategy for action concerning indigenous and tribal peoples and provided guidance for future ILO activities several of which contribute to the follow-up of recommendations of the PFII (see paragraph 35 of the [background report](#) and the [minutes of the discussion](#)). The activities include, for example, holding of a global dialogue on Convention No. 169 for constituents, indigenous peoples and UN actors as well as various activities to promote access of indigenous peoples to decent work and social protection.

ii. The theme of the 2022 PFII session is “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”¹. Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

The [ILO handbook on Convention No.169](#) includes a section on the Convention’s implications for the private sector (see pages 25-28).

Convention No. 169 is included in Annex I of the [ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy](#) as an ILO instrument relevant to the Declaration’s implementation.

During 2021, the ILO published a [regional report](#) on consultations with indigenous peoples from the employers’ perspective, accompanied by eight country technical notes ([Peru, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay](#)).

The ILO, OHCHR and OECD are jointly implementing the EU-funded [project on Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean \(RBCLAC\)](#).

B. System-Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Background

As per the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/69/2), a [system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN](#)

¹ See Annex 1. Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

[Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) was adopted in November 2015 and launched by the Secretary-General at the UN Permanent Forum in May 2016.

In August 2020, the United Nations Executive Committee agreed on the need for accelerated and collective action to strengthen the implementation of the SWAP on indigenous peoples. In November 2020, the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination issued a [Call to Action: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples](#). Its goal is to ensure collaborative and coherent UN system action to support the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples with a focus on furthering the implementation of the SWAP².

i. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made on the SWAP implementation as part of its discussion on the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples during its 2022 session. Please provide analysis on actions taken by your agency, fund and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum³. Please also include an executive summary (600-word limit).

1) Raise awareness of the UNDRIP

The ILO continued to raise awareness of UNDRIP by referring to it in context of its activities and publications concerning indigenous peoples. The ILO is a partner of the Indigenous Navigator initiative which seeks to promote indigenous peoples' rights and development based on UNDRIP and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

2) Support the implementation of the UNDRIP, particularly at the country level

The ILO continued to promote the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and its effective implementation. With a view to extending efforts to regions in which the Convention is not yet widely ratified, the ILO is preparing a series of country profiles presenting laws, policies and institutions concerning indigenous and tribal peoples as a means to promote social dialogue on their review and strengthening. The ILO has implemented projects, research or technical assistance related to indigenous peoples in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Bangladesh, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico.

4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacity, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP;

² Reporting on the activities to implement the CEB Call to Action will be through task groups and should not be included in the responses to this questionnaire.

³ The six key elements of the SWAP are: 1) Raise awareness of the UNDRIP; 2) Support the implementation of the UNDRIP, particularly at the country level; 3) Support the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacity, training materials and resources within the UN system, international financial institutions and the members of the IASG for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP; 5) Develop the capacity of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel; and 6) Advance the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes.

In 2021, the ILO published observations and/or direct requests by the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR) related to Convention No. 169 concerning Brazil, Dominica, Guatemala, and Honduras and related to the Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107) concerning Ghana, Guinea Bissau, India, and Syrian Arab Republic. These comments are available [here](#). The application of Convention No. 169 by Honduras was discussed by the Committee on the Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference in June 2021. The minutes of the discussion and the conclusions adopted are available [here](#).

Since submission of its previous update, the ILO has issued a new tool on Convention No. 169 specifically aimed at assisting judges and legal practitioners in exploring the scope and content of the Convention. The tool addresses key notions under the Convention in an accessible manner, taking into account the work of the ILO supervisory bodies (available [here](#)). Another new resource is a global study on barriers for indigenous women's participation and organization, drawing on country studies from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cameroon, Guatemala (accessible [here](#)). In addition, the ILO and IWGIA published a report entitled Indigenous peoples in a changing world of work: Exploring indigenous peoples' economic and social rights through the Indigenous Navigator (available [here](#)).

5) Develop the capacity of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel;

In 2021, the ILO has developed a distance learning course on Convention No. 169 and its role for inclusive and sustainable development. The course includes guided self-learning and face-to-face virtual session. First editions of the course were run for government officials, indigenous peoples' representatives, as well as workers' and employers' representatives from Latin American countries, as well as from Africa and Asia.

With a view to enhancing the visibility of indigenous peoples in official statistics, the ILO has developed a technical paper on indigenous traditional occupations and labour statistics in consultation with indigenous experts. The paper proposes a statistical definition of traditional occupations which is currently being tested based on available microdata from a selected number of countries.

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- i. Please provide information on the main gaps and challenges your entity has identified for indigenous peoples in achieving the 2030 Agenda.
- ii. What activities have your entity undertaken since the last reporting that addresses these gaps and challenges

The ILO has undertaken a study on access of indigenous peoples to social protection in Latin America, a global study on indigenous women's organization and participation and is currently preparing a technical paper to explore options for making indigenous peoples' traditional occupations more visible in official statistics.

- iii. Please describe any activities that your entity organized in support of the 2021 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and/or reports and activities that supported SDG reporting and monitoring or a VNR process at the national, regional, or global level.

D. COVID-19 pandemic

i. Please provide information on action taken by your agency, fund and/or programme since your last update to the Forum, to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on indigenous peoples.

In 2021, the ILO has undertaken research to examine access of indigenous peoples to social protection. This issue is of heightened importance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic consequences which have disproportionately affected indigenous peoples. In addition, the ILO commissioned an assessment of impact of COVID-19 on indigenous women in the informal economy in Bangladesh. Both studies are expected to be published in the first trimester of 2022.

Thank you very much

ANNEX 1

Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Twentieth-First session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is scheduled to take place from **25 April to 6 May 2022**

Provisional Agenda

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1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”.
4. Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health, and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. Dialogues:
 - (a) Dialogue with indigenous peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with Member States;
 - (c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
 - (d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - (e) Regional dialogues: Indigenous peoples and pandemic recovery;
 - (f) Thematic dialogues: International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022–2032.
6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
7. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-first session.