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

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) was established by the 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 within 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 a report for the 2023 session of the Permanent Forum. 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 to your response being made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **15 November 2022** 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
Email: indigenous_un@un.org and requesens@un.org

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RESPONSES FROM THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (responses are highlighted in green)

1. The present report provides an update on ongoing activities carried out by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Secretariat) and are relevant to indigenous peoples and local communities. The activities are part of the [programme of work on Article 8\(j\) and related provisions](#), which aims to promote within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) a just implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions, at local, national, regional and international levels and to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all stages and levels of its implementation.

Please provide information on the following:

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2023 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

2. As is the practice of the CBD, the recommendations from the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (Permanent Forum or UNPFII) are transmitted to [the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8\(j\) and Related Provisions \(WG8J\)](#), which, in turn, makes recommendations for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties (COP), as the governing body of the CBD.
3. The eleventh meeting of the WG8J (WG8J-11), that took place from 20 to 22 November 2019, considered recommendations emanating from the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the UNPFII in 2018 and 2019 respectively. To address the UNPFII recommendations, WG8J-11 proposed [recommendation WG8j-11/4](#) for the consideration of the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP-15.2), scheduled to take place from 7 to 19 December 2022, in Montreal, Canada.
4. At COP-15.2, Parties to CBD will conclude negotiations and decide on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as well as on the in-depth dialogue on the thematic areas and other cross-cutting issues for the 12th meeting of the WG8J ([recommendation WG8j-11/1](#)), the preparation of a new programme of work and new institutional arrangements for Article 8(j) and related provisions ([recommendation WG8J-11/2](#)), possible elements of work aimed at an integration of nature and culture in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including the renewal of the joint programme of work on the links between biological and cultural diversity ([recommendation WG8J-11/3](#) and [recommendation SBSTTA-23/5](#)).
5. This report also includes the initial steps to address the UNPFII recommendation emanating from the twentieth session in 2021, and the twenty-first session in 2022. These recommendations are due to be considered by the twelfth meeting of the WG8J, that is expected to take place in the second half of 2023.

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Recommendation adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions for the consideration of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (part two) ([CBD/WG8J/REC/11/4](#))

6. Cop15.2 will consider the recommendation below, proposed by WG8J, at its eleventh meeting, in response to the Permanent Forum recommendations, emanating in 2018 and 2019:

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the note by the Executive Secretary,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations emanating from the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to inform the Permanent Forum of developments of mutual interest;

2. *Welcomes* the invitations of the Forum to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to contribute to:

- (a) A study on the contributions of indigenous peoples to the management of ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity;
- (b) A set of actions and commitments in relation to conservation and human rights in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- (c) A comparative legal study that analyses the rights of indigenous peoples and the emerging rights of local communities;

3. *Decides* to take the results of these activities under consideration in the development of its new programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions from the perspective of the relevance of the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, particularly in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to contribute to the above-mentioned activities, to provide information to the Forum about these and other relevant activities of the Convention, and to carry out commitments to indigenous peoples, in accordance with the Secretary General's system-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Recommendations emanating from the twentieth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2021)

60. The Permanent Forum highlights the continued misappropriation and illicit use of indigenous peoples' intellectual property and cultural heritage by enterprises and individuals that use it for their own vested interests or benefits. The Permanent Forum stresses that the intellectual property rights held by indigenous peoples, including with regard to data and knowledge, should not be exploited or be taken by private companies and individuals without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned. The principle of free, prior and informed consent and the stringent application of relevant safeguards and policies promulgated by United Nations system entities also applies to intellectual property rights in the context of industrial, forestry, mining and other projects conducted on indigenous peoples' lands and territories. This also applies

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to relevant international instruments, such as the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

7. The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya Protocol) aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, in a fair and equitable manner. The Nagoya Protocol recognizes essential safeguards such as the prior and informed consent or approval and involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities, holders of the knowledge, and the establishment of mutually agreed terms to access such knowledge.
8. The Secretariat of the Convention, along with the ABS-GEF Global Project, organized Webinar Series on the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples "Custodians of Biodiversity," from 4 to 7 August 2020. This Webinar Series highlighted indigenous peoples' contributions to biodiversity conservation, access and benefit sharing (ABS) and discussed emerging opportunities and challenges on ABS and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In addition, the Secretariat of the Convention, along with the ABS-GEF Global Project, also organized the 2020 Global Conference on Access and Benefit-Sharing, in the context of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol. The Conference was initiated on 29 October 2020 and hosted virtual panels every Wednesday during the month of November, including a thematic dialogue between Governments and indigenous peoples and local communities on ABS.
9. COP 14, in its [decision 14/20](#), noted the divergence of views of Parties on digital sequence information on genetic resources, and decided to establish a science and policy-based process. The Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (WG2020) considered this matter during its third and fourth meetings held in 2022, which included views on the implication of digital sequence information on traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources. The WG2020 Co-chairs established an informal Co-Chairs' advisory group, co-led by Mr. Gaute Voigt-Hanssen (Norway) and Ms. Lactitia Tshitwamulomoni (South Africa). The informal advisory group composition included six indigenous peoples and local community representatives. The Secretariat provided support to the advisory group, including indigenous peoples and local community representatives. At its fourth meeting, the WG2020 continued its consideration of the draft COP decision on digital sequence information. The WG2020-4 agreed to [recommendation 4/2](#) containing elements of a draft decision for the consideration of COP-15.2, which includes reference to indigenous peoples and local community rights over their traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

75. The Permanent Forum welcomes indigenous peoples' contributions to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The Forum underlines the need to develop a new programme of work and institutional arrangements on article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples. It recommends that the Secretariat of the Convention facilitate a capacity-building process for indigenous peoples to enable them to prepare themselves for the development of new programmes of work and institutional arrangements.

10. The process to develop new programme of work and institutional arrangements on Article 8(j) is expected to follow a COP-15.2 decision on this matter, as recommended by WG8J-

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11¹. The UNPFII recommendation will be transmitted to the twelfth session of the WG8J for its consideration. For the time being, the Secretariat has planned to organize a webinar during the first half of 2023 to raise awareness among indigenous peoples and local communities, and Parties on the issues and opportunities for the new programme of work and the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the CBD.

Recommendations emanating from the twenty-first session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2022)

66. The Permanent Forum urges the World Intellectual Property Organization, UNESCO, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant United Nations entities to align their internal policies, within their respective mandates, so as to recognize and protect the collective intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples in respect of their creations, discoveries, traditional knowledge and knowledge of biodiversity. The Permanent Forum invites the above-mentioned United Nations entities to report back to future sessions on the progress made in that regard.

11. The rights of indigenous peoples in respect of their traditional knowledge are relevant in the context of the CBD to support the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
12. Within the context of the CBD, one of the main objectives of the CBD is the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. Related to traditional knowledge, Article 8(j) provides to (i) respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, (ii) to promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and (iii) to encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices. In its Article 16, paragraph 5, the CBD recognizes that patents and other intellectual property rights may have an influence on the implementation of this Convention, and requires Contracting Parties to cooperate in this regard subject to national legislation and international law in order to ensure that such rights are supportive of and do not run counter to its objectives.
13. To support the implementation of Article 8(j) on traditional knowledge, Parties of the CBD have made substantial contributions to the development of the international principles and guidelines, as minimum standards, including:
 - The Guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments, the Akwe:Kon voluntary guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments regarding developments proposed to take place on, or which are likely to impact on, sacred sites and on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities (Akwe:Kon voluntary guidelines);²
 - The Tkarihwaí:ri Code of Ethical Conduct to Ensure Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities (Tkarihwaí:ri Code of

¹ WG8J-11, Recommendation 11/2. Development of a new programme of work and institutional arrangements on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities ([CBD/WG8J/REC/11/2](#))

² [Decision VII/16](#).

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Ethical Conduct);³

- The Mo'otz kuxtal⁴ voluntary guidelines for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure the “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”, depending on national circumstances, of indigenous peoples and local communities⁵ for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge (Mo'otz kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines);⁶
- The Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines for the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines);⁷

14. The Nagoya Protocol provides for access and benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as well as genetic resources held by indigenous peoples and local communities where the rights of these communities over these resources have been recognized. Consistent with the provisions of the CBD, Article 8(j), the Nagoya Protocol provides for safeguards such as the prior and informed consent or approval and involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities, mutually agreed terms, and sharing of benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

15. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework is believed to provide a new opportunity to promote the implementation of Article 8(j), by ensuring that traditional knowledge is valued, given the same respect and consideration as other forms of knowledge, in the context of a holistic approach consistent with the spiritual and cultural values and customary practices of indigenous peoples and local communities. Proposed Target 20 aims to ensure quality information and knowledge guide biodiversity decision-making, including traditional knowledge accessed under free, prior and informed consent.

16. Alongside Article 8(j), Parties are showing their commitment to ensure the implementation of the third objective of the Convention by encouraging the equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of the traditional knowledge relevant to biodiversity conservation. Proposed Goal C and proposed Target 13, on access and benefit-sharing, have direct implications for traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

85. Indigenous peoples have been a distinct constituency at the United Nations since 1977 and, with the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the General Assembly in 2007, their inherent rights were affirmed as the international minimum standard. The Permanent Forum reiterates the position of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of

³ [Decision X/42](#)

⁴ Meaning “roots of life” in the Maya language

⁵ The use and interpretation of the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” in these Guidelines should refer to decision XII/12 F, paragraphs 2 (a), (b) and (c).

⁶ [Decision XIII/18](#). The adoption of the Mo'otz kuxtal voluntary guidelines has also advanced the work being pursued by the Working Group on sui generis systems for the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities by highlighting the potential role of community protocols and procedures for access to traditional knowledge

⁷ [Decision 14/12](#), Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines for the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity at: <https://www.cbd.int/guidelines/>

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indigenous peoples, namely that it is unacceptable to undermine the status and standing of indigenous peoples by combining or equating them with non-indigenous entities such as minorities, vulnerable groups or local communities. Such attempts, whether by States or United Nations entities, are not acceptable and will be challenged by indigenous peoples and those mandated to defend their rights. The Permanent Forum urges all United Nations entities and States parties to treaties concerning the environment, biodiversity and the climate to eliminate the use of the term “local communities” in conjunction with indigenous peoples, so that the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” would be abolished.

17. In 1992, when the CBD was adopted, the international community used the term “indigenous and local communities” in Article 8(j). In 2012, COP-11, adopted [decision XI/14 B](#) of specific relevance to the local community’s participation in the CBD processes, including equitable access to the Voluntary Fund for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as capacity-building workshops, to commence disaggregation of data and statistics on local community representatives. The decision was guided by the report of the [Ad hoc Expert Group Meeting of Local-community Representatives](#) (Montreal, Canada, 14-16 July 2011).
18. In 2014, in line with the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and recommendations of the Permanent Forum on the use of the terminology “indigenous peoples and local communities”, COP12 decided to use the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” in future decisions under the Convention, without affecting in any way the legal meaning of Article 8(j) and related provisions ([decision XII/12 F](#)) of the Convention. Prior to agreeing to the utilization of this terminology in future CBD documents, the Secretariat had requested the advice of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, which shared its legal opinion highlighting that to ensure that the use of different terminology in a decision would not be construed as a “subsequent agreement”, Parties to the CBD should make clear in their decision that the use of different terminology was on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the terminology used in the CBD and should not be taken into account for purposes of interpreting or applying the CBD ([UNEP/CBD/COP/12/5/ADD1](#)). Accordingly, the CBD documents are since utilizing the terminology “indigenous peoples and local communities” in COP decisions and secondary documents.
19. As per previous practice within the CBD process, the Secretariat will transmit the UNPFII recommendation to the next session of the WG8J, possibly to take place in the second half of 2023, for its consideration. WG8J-12 will make a recommendation for the consideration of the sixteenth meeting of COP on this issue.

87. Ensuring a human rights-based approach to indigenous peoples’ rights to land, waters, territories and resources, governance and secure customary tenure is essential for their continued contribution and significant role in achieving the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Indigenous lands, waters and territories need to be recognized directly and as a category separate from “protected areas” or “other effective area-based conservation measures”, including when recognizing the land rights of indigenous women. A core element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be the development of indicators reflecting indigenous peoples’ rights to facilitate monitoring and implementation. There is an urgent and continuing need for resource mobilization for indigenous peoples, including for indigenous women, to ensure their participation in shaping and implementing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In this regard, the Permanent Forum acknowledges the recommendation to organize an expert meeting to develop and study the options and mechanisms for direct access to funding, to be transmitted to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Furthermore, the Permanent Forum

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supports the continuation of the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions of that Convention and urges States parties thereto to ensure adequate support to provide for a robust work programme.

20. In 2018, in anticipation of the closing of the timeframe for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, COP-14 adopted decision [14/34](#), setting out a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process for the development of a new strategic plan, referred to as the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The Convention has established mechanisms for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including for participation at the WG2020 meetings, through the voluntary funding mechanism under the CBD.
21. The Secretariat, in accordance with its mandate to provide support to the process, remains in daily contact with indigenous peoples and local communities, and stakeholders to identify opportunities for input, dialogue, and capacity building. The Secretariat is committed to the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework process, in recognition of their role in the successful implementation of the new framework.
22. The Secretariat, along with the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), organized three global thematic dialogues for indigenous peoples and local communities on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The [first Dialogue](#) was held on 17 and 18 November 2019 and reflected on the results of the first meeting of the WG2020 and associated regional consultations. The [second Dialogue](#) was held virtually from 1 to 3 December 2020 and served as an opportunity for participants to reflect on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework process, including the updated zero draft ([CBD/POST2020/PREP/2/1](#)) and the draft post-2020 monitoring framework ([CBD/WG2020/2/3/Add.1](#)). The [third Dialogue](#), held virtually on 2 - 3, and 5 - 6 August 2021, provided an opportunity for indigenous peoples and local communities, and Parties representatives to exchange views on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including the first draft of the framework, with a focus on traditional knowledge (proposed target 20), customary sustainable use (proposed target 4, 5, 9 and 10), the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities' lands, territories and waters towards area-based conservation targets (proposed targets 1, 2, and 3), equitable participation (proposed target 21), and access to benefit-sharing (proposed goal C, and target 13). This preparation allowed indigenous peoples and local communities to present their views on the first draft, which can be found in the [annex of the report](#).
23. Through the CBD voluntary funding mechanism, the participation of indigenous peoples and local community representatives was facilitated in all four meetings of WG2020. In 2020, the voluntary fund supported 14 indigenous peoples and local community representatives to take part in the WG2020-2, held in Rome from 23 to 29 February 2020. In 2021, the voluntary fund was extended to facilitate the online participation of indigenous peoples and local community representatives in the first part of the WG2020-3, held virtually in August and September 2021. A total of 8 indigenous peoples and local communities representatives were offered technical support or the provision of equipment to facilitate internet connectivity to the meeting. The voluntary fund also supported the participation of 12 representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities during the physical meetings of the resumed sessions WG2020-3, held from 14 to 29 March 2022, in Geneva. Similarly, 9 indigenous peoples and local community representatives received support to participate in the WG2020-4, held from 21 to 26 June 2022, in Nairobi. For WG2020-5 and COP15.2 meetings, from 3 to 19 December 2022, in Montreal, the

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voluntary fund will support 21 representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities.

ii. The theme of the 2023 PFII session is “Indigenous peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach”¹. Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

24. The CBD works, within its mandate, on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, traditional knowledge, and customary sustainable use to fulfill its obligations concerning the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international human rights instruments.

25. The full enjoyment of several human rights is intrinsically related to the protection of biodiversity. Correspondingly, respecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights can help the implementation of the CBD obligation. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework sets out an ambitious plan to assist Parties in implementing CBD. The fourth meeting of WG2020 introduced a section on the implementation of the framework, known as section B bis, which provides critical elements for the entire framework. Its features include recognition of indigenous peoples and local community rights, a human rights-based approach, diverse values of nature, and gender responsiveness, among others.

26. Several proposed goals and targets also address indigenous peoples and local communities’ interests, including:

- Proposed targets 1, 2 and 3 on area-based conservation that could involve contributions from traditional lands and territories;
- Proposed Target 5, on trade of wild species, and Proposed Target 9, on benefits for people, including protecting customary sustainable use;
- Proposed Target 8 on Biodiversity and Climate change;
- Proposed Goal C and proposed Target 13 address fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, and associated traditional knowledge;
- Proposed Target 20 ensures access to knowledge, including traditional knowledge accessed with free, prior and informed consent;
- Proposed Target 21 on equitable participation; and
- Proposed Target 22 on gender.

27. The CBD, through WG8J, has made substantial contributions to the development of international principles and guidelines as minimum standards to achieve the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including:

- The Akwe: Kon voluntary guidelines;
- Tkarihwaié:ri Code of Ethical Conduct;
- The Global Plan on the Customary Sustainable Use;
- The Mo’otz kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines;
- The Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines;
- The glossary within the context of Article 8(j);
- Voluntary guidelines in biodiversity financing mechanisms; and
- Methodological guidance concerning the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities.

iii. Please provide information on efforts to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples in the international decades declared by the General Assembly, such as the United Nations

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Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development,” the International Decade of Indigenous Languages and other relevant international decades and processes.

28. In the margins of COP15.2, the [Nature and Culture Summit](#) takes place on 11 and 12 December 2022, organized by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Secretariat, and IIFB. The Summit aims to generate new pathways for intercultural, intergenerational and international cooperation to integrate nature and culture in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, towards the shared vision of living in harmony with nature. The Summit includes a roundtable on respecting and conserving linguistic diversity and traditional knowledge systems in biodiversity conservation. In addition, COP15.2 will consider the topic “the role of languages in the intergenerational transmission of traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices” for the in-depth dialogue during WG8J-12. Both discussions aim to support the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

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 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 2023 session. Please provide an analysis of actions taken by your agency, fund

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

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

and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum³.

Please also include an executive summary (500-word limit).

29. The adoption of the [System-Wide Action Plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(SWAP\)](#) and the [Call to Action: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples](#)

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by the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB Call to Action) are significant instruments that speak directly to the CBD work.

30. The CBD, within its mandate on knowledge, innovations, practices of indigenous peoples and local communities for conservation, and customary sustainable use, has ensured through several mechanisms the effective participation of indigenous peoples in the work of the Convention at all levels, being the primary mechanism the Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions. Since its establishment in 1998, WG8J has met eleven times with notable achievements, including drafting voluntary guidelines and raising the profile of indigenous peoples and local communities in the CBD process. Indigenous peoples and local communities have positioned themselves as partners in developing and future implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
31. A fundamental principle of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions is the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities. Thus, WG8J has instilled practices such as the nomination of an indigenous co-chair to assist the Chairperson of the meeting, including co-chairing of sub-working groups and contact groups, and enhanced opportunities to make interventions on all agenda items of the WG8J. Additionally, the Convention has established a [voluntary funding mechanism for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities](#) in meetings held under the Convention. Overall, the work of the Secretariat to engage indigenous peoples and local communities is seen as a good practice in the United Nations system.
32. The Secretariat has supported the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG) in responding to the CEB Call to Action, which requested the IASG to collect and analyze lessons learned and good practices on United Nations actions in support of the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples. As a result, the IASG, with the assistance of the Secretariat, developed a mapping of actions taken to improve indigenous peoples' participation and developed an informal roster of indigenous peoples professionals, with particular attention to indigenous youth.

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

i. Please describe any activities your entity has organized since the last reporting period to accelerate progress across a range of SDGs, demonstrating the interlinkages across goals and targets and if applicable, providing examples of translating global goals into local actions. In your response, please consider referring to SDGs relevant to the theme of the 2023 session of the Forum.

ii. Please describe any activities your entity organized in support of the 2022 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.

33. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the future programme of work for Article 8(j) and related provisions are the important instruments to ensure the indigenous peoples and local communities' collective and local actions to achieve the 2030 Agenda within the Convention's mandate.
34. The Secretariat supports the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which is closely aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The proposed draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework recognizes that the framework is a

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contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the same time, progress towards the SDGs will help to create the conditions necessary to implement the framework.⁸ In addition, the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework also includes the adoption of its indicators and monitoring framework. The SDG indicators and the indicators on monitoring processes related to traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use are relevant for collecting statistical data on indigenous peoples.

35. Furthermore, the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity, to be considered by COP15.2, aims to recognize the natural and cultural heritage and diversity as enablers and drivers of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and a pathway to the global biodiversity framework's vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050, the SDGs.

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 building back better from COVID-19 while advancing the full implementation of Agenda 2030 for indigenous peoples.

36. Within the CBD's scope, a fundamental principle of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions is to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the discussion and processes related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The Secretariat participated by providing several online briefings to the indigenous preparatory meetings organized by the IIFB toward the meetings of the WG2020 and COP15.2. The briefing included providing practical information on the modalities of the sessions, substantive agenda items, and registration process. In addition, the voluntary fund was extended to facilitate the participation of indigenous peoples and local community representatives in all meetings of the WG2020 and COP15.2, and CBD process during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you very much

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.

⁸ First draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework ([CBD/WG2020/3/3](#))

ANNEX 1

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

The Twentieth-second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is scheduled to take place from **17 to 28 April 2023**

Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach”.
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;
 - (f) Dialogue on indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities;
 - (g) Thematic dialogues;
6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues.
7. Provisional agenda of the twenty-third session of the Permanent Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-second session.