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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds

Report of the Inter-Agency Support Group Meeting on Indigenous Peoples

Background

1. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG) plays a key role in ensuring coordination of mutual efforts concerning indigenous peoples' issues and in supporting the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (Permanent Forum). In this context and after discussions with the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, it was decided that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity would host the annual meeting of the IASG in 2012 and chair the group for the next twelve months, followed by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

* E/C.19/2013/1.

** The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN/DESA) bears no responsibility for the views and recommendations in this report.

2. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG) was held at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal from 28 to 30 November 2012.

Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by international agency focal points for indigenous peoples' issues, as well as the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Grand Chief Edward John. Twenty-seven participants from twenty-one agencies participated in the meeting, including six colleagues who joined via video-conferencing. An attendance list is attached as annex II.

Opening of the Meeting

4. The United Nations Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, opened the meeting with introductory remarks. In his address he emphasized that his highest priority is the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity. He urged that the focus on implementation be reflected in inter-agency cooperation on indigenous issues. He requested that IASG identify common goals, seek opportunities for increased collaboration, and identify ways and means to harmonize inter-agency work and maximize limited resources.

5. This year's IASG meeting aimed at being a practical dialogue between agencies, encouraging a collaborative approach to addressing recommendations arising from the Permanent Forum, as well as being a planning exercise to encourage greater coordination and collaboration in areas of mutual interest, such as capacity-building. He noted that the Conference

of the Parties (COP) has adopted decisions¹ requesting increased collaboration between UN agencies in delivering capacity-building and that this is very much supported by indigenous peoples. Further noting the difficult funding environment faced by the international system, he urged participants to use this opportunity for IASG members to share ideas and experiences on how agencies might collaborate more closely, in the context of its various mandates, to use scarce resources as efficiently as possible for the benefit of indigenous communities. In his conclusion, he asked all participating agencies to reflect on this during this meeting, and to identify possible avenues for cooperation in the coming years.

6. The Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Grand Chief Edward John, commenced by greeting participants in his indigenous language and respectfully acknowledging the Mohawk people of the Kahnawake community, on whose traditional territory the meeting was taking place. He thanked the Executive Secretary and Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in particular, the Article 8(j) team for welcoming them. He mentioned that 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 (ABS), adopted at COP10 is very important for indigenous peoples as it establishes obligations for users of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge to introduce legal, administrative or policy measures to ensure compliance with the access and benefit-sharing law of provider countries.

7. He noted there remained some issues to solve concerning the Nagoya Protocol, including its effective implementation. He gave an example of ABS where the Hoodia plant from Southern

¹ Decision XI/14. Article 8(j) and related provisions by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eleventh meeting.

Africa used for weight loss is now being used by consumers in developed countries. He recognized that IASG has an important role to play in implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He also thanked the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and the previous chair of the IASG. He thanked the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for its participation in the in-depth dialogue in May 2012, and emphasized that WIPO's participation was very important to the Permanent Forum. He recognized agency efforts to develop indigenous policies and thanked the agencies for promoting the effective participation of indigenous peoples in their processes. He also mentioned specific policies of engagement adopted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the World Bank, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). He also noted that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) are working on indigenous policies.

8. In discussing environmental issues, the Chair of Permanent Forum, Grand Chief Edward John, noted tremendous challenges for indigenous peoples caused by extractive industries such as oil-sands and shale gas, including the tremendous amounts of water that is required to develop them, especially in British Columbia in Canada, where many people oppose the pipeline because of the risk of accidental spills. He emphasized that many indigenous peoples continue to depend on fish and products from nature, and were thus particularly vulnerable to environmental problems resulting from extractive industries. He urged the United Nations to pay attention to indigenous peoples in the United States of America and Canada, as the problems here are equally important to problems faced by indigenous peoples in other regions such as Africa and South

America. He finished by emphasizing that the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity was extremely important not only to current but also to future generations.

9. The Chief of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (SPFII) thanked the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity for welcoming them and also thanked Grand Chief Edward John for his participation in the IASG. She mentioned that 13 September 2012 was the fifth anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. She urged UN agencies and indigenous peoples to work more closely together to ensure the UN Declaration's application at the national level. She mentioned that the Permanent Forum is working towards the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples slated for 2014 and requested agencies to actively support indigenous peoples in the preparation process for the event.

10. She reminded participants that the Second International Decade on Indigenous People is coming to an end, and that there should be an evaluation process to assist the international community and indigenous peoples to decide on their post-decade agenda. The Chief of SPFII also drew attention to the post-2015 development agenda, including the development of sustainable development goals. She thanked UNFPA as outgoing Chair of the IASG for advancing concrete initiatives to implement some of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum, including a proposal for the creation of a "Knowledge Portal" and the assessment of working methods for collaboration between the IASG and the Permanent Forum. She also thanked IFAD for facilitating training of UN Country Teams, Governments, Indigenous Peoples Organizations and ensuring that indigenous peoples were included in the UN Country Team trainings. She also thanked WIPO for participating in this year's in-depth dialogue with the Permanent Forum. She urged other agencies to consider engaging in the in-depth dialogue in coming years. She also advised that the next Permanent Forum expert group meeting would

occur in January 2013 on the theme “Indigenous Youth: Identity, challenges and hope: articles 14, 17, 21 and 25 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”.

11. The Chief of SPFII also advised participants that the next session of Permanent Forum will be a review year with a focus on recommendations in health, culture and education. She also thanked the IASG for their ongoing support and looked forward to discussions under “working methods” on how collaborations could be further enhanced. In conclusion, she thanked the participants both in Montreal and those participating by teleconference.

History of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples’ issues and its terms of reference

12. In keeping with the established practice for the previous meetings of the IASG, it was agreed by the participants that the representative of the host agency, Mr. John Scott (SCBD) and Ms Chandra Roy-Henriksen, Chief of the Permanent Forum Secretariat would be co-chairs of the meeting. The meeting adopted the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/8J/IASG/1/1) and the proposed organization of work both of which are available in annex III.

Organization of work

13. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity provided an overview of the historical process of the IASG. Twelve years ago the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Mary Robinson, wrote to heads of agencies working on issues relevant to indigenous peoples requesting them to nominate a focal point. She invited focal points to come together as an inter-agency group to support the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues (IASG) met for the first time in 2002. IASG developed terms of reference agreeing to meet for an annual meeting and on the margins

of Permanent Forum's annual sessions. The terms of reference were approved in 2003 and revised in 2007.

14. Related to this issue, participants were asked for comments on the terms of reference. After some discussions, it was agreed that (i) they would be circulated electronically for comments in early 2013, (ii) proposed revisions would be incorporated, and (iii) the revised draft would be considered at the next IASG annual meeting in 2013.

15. The participants underlined the importance of the engagement of other agencies to be part of the IASG, and also the need to maintain the active participation of current members. IASG members decided that the revised terms of reference could include a section on the responsibilities of member organizations of the IASG. Heads of Agencies could be asked to sign off on this to ensure the focal point has support.

16. Many participants noted the long standing IASG membership of the World Bank and their valuable contribution. Participants also agreed that the activities of the World Bank were relevant to indigenous peoples and thus the engagement of the World Bank in the IASG was important. A letter from the World Bank was read out, in which the Bank noted the retirement of their current advisor, and that a new senior indigenous advisor was about to be appointed to continue their engagement with the IASG. Apologies were received from FAO, Fondo Indígena, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the World Food Programme (WFP).

17. UNFPA noted that a desirable outcome may be to agree to and list actions arising from the annual meeting. Many participants agreed that this was a useful and practical working method

and it was agreed that the actions arising from the meeting would be annexed to the report.

Actions arising appear in annex I.

Introduction to the Convention on Biological Diversity and work relevant to indigenous peoples

18. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity provided information on the participation and role of indigenous and local communities in the work of the convention, with a focus on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use. The presentation included an overview of the Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, the Strategic Plan and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity targets, as well as the Nagoya Protocol and outcomes from the eleventh meeting of the conference of the parties (COP 11). The presentation was followed by a discussion on various issues including genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, coordination with other UN bodies working on the same or related issues, participation mechanisms, complementary work of 8(j) to ensure the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, amongst other matters.

19. The secretariat also emphasized the priorities of its Executive Secretary regarding implementation and the enhanced engagement of civil society in solutions-focused dialogue. The enhanced participation mechanisms used by the Working Group on Article 8(j) are seen as good practices. Participants noted parallels with the current Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, and Folklore (IGC) process at WIPO. This was followed by a dialogue on participation mechanisms for indigenous peoples in international negotiations. Participants also discussed the operationalization of free, prior and informed consent, including the right to say “no” – to refuse access to their knowledge.

20. Participants noted the advantage of having a recognized indigenous entity to interface with during negotiations, such as the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), which

serves as an indigenous caucus to CBD meetings, and the indigenous caucus at WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore (IGC) meetings. It was also noted that unlike some indigenous caucuses following other international processes, the IIFB continues to operate inter-sessionally outside of formal CBD meetings; it has a coordinator (including regional coordinators) and works electronically outside of meeting times. It was also noted that other international agencies, including WIPO, FAO and the International Treaty on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture also work on genetic resources. This was followed by a discussion on how the relevant agencies remain coordinated on this work.

**Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG)
responses to current and previous Permanent Forum recommendations
to the IASG and the UN system**

21. Under this item, SPFII presented the compilations of recommendations from the Permanent Forum sessions to the IASG. Participants received a table of recommendations addressed to the IASG from 2001 to 2012, as well as the current recommendations to UN agencies. The secretariat had also compiled all recommendations made to the UN system from 2001 to 2012. The participants reviewed and discussed the recommendations to the IASG, considered responses and provided information about related activities of their respective agencies.

22. Participants discussed the body of the Permanent Forum recommendations made to the IASG, with a focus on current recommendations. The IASG agreed to address the recommendations to the IASG during the current meeting and to consider a strategy on how address the body of recommendations to the UN system. In order to manage the volume of

recommendations, some participants proposed that the recommendations could be noted as completed, ongoing, in need of revision or redirection or retired. Retired recommendations may include superseded, outdated, repetitive or time-bound recommendations. SPFII and/or the IASG could review previously made recommendations starting with those from the session held in 2001 and recommend the retirement of recommendations for the consideration by the Permanent Forum members at each annual session. It was noted that similar processes are used by other international organizations, including the Convention on Biological Diversity.

23. SPFII took the participants through the current recommendations to the IASG as well as recommendations to the UN system. Agency focal points made some initial responses and also clarified relevant agencies for various recommendations. SPFII also outlined the process for the election of new Permanent Forum members and informed the IASG about the current cycle noting that the elections of new members was currently underway and is likely to be finalized by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in May 2013.

Opportunities for inter-agency collaborations in the year ahead (2013)

24. The secretariat of the CBD informed participants about the extensive work of the Working Group on Article 8(j) concerning capacity building and indigenous peoples. Patronage by the Government of Spain had allowed for a comprehensive medium-term capacity-building strategy to be implemented for indigenous peoples and local communities in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The success of this strategy has led Parties to the Convention, indigenous and local communities to call for the strategy to be expanded to the other six regions recognised by the Permanent Forum. The Article 8(j) team discussed the success of the programme, including the use of the train-the-trainer methodology, as well as partnerships with local indigenous organizations in workshop planning, development and facilitation.

25. Other agencies, including the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), WIPO, and IFAD also discussed capacity-building initiatives where it was noted that such workshops provide a useful avenue for practical collaborations which can save limited human and financial resources. Agencies also discussed the usefulness of indigenous internship programmes, with a focus on the indigenous and minorities' fellowship programme at OHCHR. Agencies discussed ways and means of supporting and collaboration with OHCHR to support and strengthen the programme. The secretariat of the CBD also mentioned the partnership it had with Conservation International in support of its indigenous fellowship programme.

26. PAHO introduced their work on a strategy for cultural diversity and work on inter-cultural health. UNESCO and SCBD are working on both biological and cultural diversity and will engage further to learn from the work on PAHO, including linkages between biological and cultural diversity. It was recommended that an IASG repository could include electronic modules, including the PAHO modules on inter-cultural health.

27. IFAD presented its upcoming work for 2013, including the first Global Meeting for Indigenous Peoples scheduled for February 2013. IFAD also discussed the regional preparatory processes leading to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. IFAD is supporting the indigenous preparatory processes for the World Conference on Indigenous Issues by direct funding. The International Land Coalition also presented its work concerning indigenous land rights.

28. WIPO presented the work of the IGC, and its current intensive negotiations towards concluding a text(s) of an international legal instrument(s) which will ensure the effective protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions,

including WIPO's enhanced mechanisms for indigenous participation. WIPO also noted that the success of the in-depth dialogue between Permanent Forum members and WIPO at the Forum's eleventh session had produced great interest, resulting in thirteen recommendations addressed to WIPO. To address several of the Permanent Forum's recommendations, WIPO is planning to organize in 2013 an international indigenous expert meeting and a practical workshop for indigenous peoples. Agencies discussed various models for international negotiations including mechanisms for participation of indigenous peoples.

29. The International Labour Organization (ILO) presented its work of relevance to indigenous peoples in Asia and Africa and also on law reform in countries including Nepal and Indonesia. ILO noted the usefulness of promoting social dialogue and standards and provided examples from South Africa. In the Latin American region, ILO, as a tripartite forum (Governments, employers and employees) is seeking to engage employers regarding ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples.

30. UNEP welcomed the greening of IASG practices with the introduction of video-conferencing. UNEP reported that its senior management recently adopted a policy on engagement with indigenous peoples. UNEP's North American Office drew attention to its work on the Arctic and the proposal to hold a ministerial breakfast on indigenous peoples in the Arctic at the next meeting of UNEP's governing body in February 2013. UNEP explained the various environmental problems facing peoples in the Arctic, including pollutants such as black carbon. It was emphasized that there is a need for greater sharing amongst the IASG on Arctic issues and the need for education products on these issues for indigenous peoples in that region.

31. UNICEF discussed areas of possible inter-agency collaborations regarding indigenous children and youth and drew attention to the next report of the rights of the child which focuses on

indigenous children. UNICEF, in collaboration with UN Women, UNFPA, ILO, WHO and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children, will launch a study on violence against indigenous girls and young women and would like to work with interested agencies, including PAHO, on this issue.

32. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provided a detailed overview of the post-2015 development agenda and emerging sustainable development goals. It emphasized there is a need for indigenous peoples to be engaged and included in the process. IASG colleagues proposed that a collaborative paper be developed to raise awareness about the need to include indigenous peoples. UNDP also discussed other pertinent issues, including extractive industries and business and human rights. The UNDP-GEF (Global Environment Facility) Small Grants Programme provided detailed information regarding recent developments in the GEF, including the development of a policy on indigenous peoples, GEF replenishment, the World Parks Congress scheduled for 2014 in Sydney, Australia, and the International Conference on Indigenous Land and Sea Managers planned for 24-29 May 2013 in Darwin, Australia. The manager of the Equator Initiative drew the IASG's attention to the establishment of an accountability mechanism within UNDP, the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN REDD+) stakeholder engagement and training in anti-corruption in the REDD+ programme.

33. UNESCO reported on its work to elaborate a policy on engaging with indigenous peoples, including from a recent Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) workshop (September 2012, Santiago de Chile, Chile). In response to recommendations from Permanent Forum, progress was also being made towards addressing concerns expressed in relation to World Heritage sites, notably through a recent meeting on this issue in Copenhagen, Denmark, organized by the

International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and hosted by the Danish Heritage Agency. Inter-agency collaboration on global climate change will continue through 2013 and includes work with SCBD and the SPFII, as well as OHCHR, as part of the Danish-funded “Climate Frontlines” project. An international expert meeting on traditional knowledge and climate change assessment and adaptation (Mexico, July 2012) produced the publication “Weathering Uncertainty”² led by UNESCO in partnership with the United Nations University (UNU), SCBD and UNDP-SGP. This inter-agency effort focuses on bringing indigenous peoples’ knowledge of climate change into the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) fifth assessment report to be released in 2014. An update was provided on the emerging Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), for which the interim secretariat is provided by UNESCO, UNEP, UNDP and FAO. UNESCO leads IPBES work on building synergies between indigenous and scientific knowledge, and looks forward to work on this issue with other agencies, notably SCBD.

34. The United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) stated that they will continue to work with SPFII to publicize the next session of the Permanent Forum, as well as the International Day of the World’s Indigenous People. DPI has also started working on a draft communications strategy for the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Possible strategic directions for upcoming major events for the IASG

35. SPFII provided an overview of the preparations for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) scheduled for 22-23 September 2014, with a focus on the modalities for the event, including the role of international agencies. Agencies are called upon to provide assistance to indigenous peoples in their regional and global preparatory processes. Agencies’

² www.ipmpcc.org.

representatives discussed opportunities to support indigenous peoples in their preparatory processes, including through direct funding such as that provided by IFAD, or through making spaces at organized events for indigenous peoples to discuss and prepare for the World Conference.

36. SPFII also emphasized the need for the strategic inclusion of indigenous peoples in the post-2015 development agenda, including in sustainable development goals. Various agencies discussed how this might be achieved. Some participants reinforced the suggestion that the IASG prepare a paper on the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals. UNPFA discussed the need for a concise paper with key messages and proposed possible entry points for such a paper, including through the current on-line thematic discussion of “Inequalities”. The secretariat of the CBD offered to coordinate the development of a short collaborative paper borrowing from the IASG paper on the MDGs, as well as the outcomes of Rio+20. The position papers would then be fed into the various Post 2015 processes. Participants were recommended to join the “Inequalities” thematic discussion, encourage indigenous networks to join and also to contribute to the joint paper, noting the timeframe was tight and the paper should be available before the end of the thematic discussion on 14 December 2012. UNEP noted that in developing a paper the IASG could borrow from the Rio+20 outcome document. SPFII also noted that it was already engaged in thematic discussions on “inequalities” in support of the post-2015 development agenda. UNPFA emphasized the importance of mobilizing the indigenous peoples’ constituency and UN agency colleagues to participate in the e-discussion of the thematic consultation on inequalities and to submit a draft of the IASG position paper on the issue. This will ensure that these views are reflected in the outcome of the thematic consultation on inequalities leading to the final report of the high-level panel of eminent

persons on the post-2015 agenda and a special event during the UN General Assembly in September 2013. UNESCO pointed out that consultations underway for the post-2015 development agenda are available at the webpage www.theworldwewant2015.com.

37. UNFPA provided an overview on the operational review of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (Cairo +20). The ICPD Programme of Action provides dedicated attention to indigenous peoples with a set of specific commitments for action. The ICPD review includes the roll-out of a global survey in 2012, which incorporates a stand-alone module on indigenous peoples' issues and the participation of indigenous peoples at national stakeholder meetings. The survey findings will provide valuable inputs for a human rights conference on the ICPD agenda in 2013, at which indigenous peoples' participation will also be promoted. The outcome of the ICPD review process will provide valuable inputs for the indigenous peoples' conference in the area of sexual and reproductive health with a focus on intercultural health models and reproductive rights issues, such as child marriage, violence against women and girls, and sexuality education and information.

38. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children explained its mandate and priorities of its work and urged further collaborations with relevant IASG members noting the difference between youth and children. It was noted that the rights of indigenous children, including their protection from all forms of violence should be addressed as a cross-cutting issue. IASG members exchanged further information about indigenous children and youth issues.

Reviewing working methods and mutual collaboration

39. UNFPA introduced the minutes from the prior discussion on this issue with Permanent Forum members during its last session in 2012, as well as a proposed matrix developed to

compile and compare information about the UN system as an easy reference document for Permanent Forum members. It had suggested that, during the annual two week sessions, it would be highly desirable for Permanent Forum members to use the opportunity to meet with heads of agencies in or visiting New York. IASG members agreed to recommend to their heads of agencies to do so.

40. IASG members with country presences considered how country offices, could provide opportunities for the participation of indigenous peoples in UN planning processes at national and sub-national levels. Members also discussed the need to ensure bilateral meetings with the relevant Permanent Forum member focal points during the annual sessions. SPFII provided an overview of the Permanent Forum processes and timeframes to assist IASG in their planning for the next session. It noted the need for official invitations to Permanent Forum members should come through the secretariat (SPFII) in order to ensure coordination and follow-up and also to ensure that Permanent Forum members travelled and participated as United Nations experts with the immunities and privileges afforded by their status. SPFII also reminded colleagues of the Permanent Forum mandate which was to “promote coordination” across the UN system rather than to “monitor”. SPFII also provided timeframes for the submission of documents, the use of agencies’ reports and the preparation of a summary document. The secretariat of CBD recommended that all future agency reports include an executive summary on the first page which focuses on responses to Permanent Forum recommendations. SPFII agreed that this would be of great assistance in their task of analyzing and summarizing the many reports from agencies and preparing a summary document.

41. UNEP, considering the vast body of Permanent Forum recommendations covering eleven years, discussed future directions and moves toward meaningful and effective implementation.

SPFII noted that the Forum was moving in this direction through the recently established biennial cycle of a thematic year followed by a review year of its work. UNPFA also recommended that the annual report of the IASG should focus less on agency activities and more on collective actions. It was recommended that agencies continue to discuss with relevant Permanent Forum focal points, in advance of the annual session, possible recommendations that would advance indigenous issues within their respective agencies. Participants also noted that it was difficult for Permanent Forum members to be aware of what part of the agencies (secretariat or political arm) to direct recommendations. Thus, it is sufficient for members to direct their recommendations to the relevant agencies and the secretariats can ensure the recommendations are addressed by the appropriate process and body. The participants also discussed the challenges of the various conflicting cycles that agencies and the Permanent Forum work within. It was noted that SPFII does its best to ensure recommendations are shared with agencies as soon as possible.

42. Members of the IASG agreed to meet at the twelfth session of UNPFII for two or three meetings over the two-week period and to attempt to meet at least twice with Permanent Forum members; once early in the first week and the second time, later in the second week. The IASG members' first meeting could coincide with the first half-day closed meeting of the session to allow for sufficient time for discussions. The Chair of the IASG agreed to prepare a draft agenda in advance and to circulate it to IASG members participating in the twelfth session of Permanent Forum to allow time for strategic thinking. SPFII emphasized the value of face-to-face meetings, and noted that although greening our practices is important and video-conferencing welcomed, the outcome of the former were extremely important-especially for new members.

Proposals on a web-based repository of tools

43. UNPFA noted that the proposal had been under consideration for a number of years following several Permanent Forum recommendations to make the work of UN agencies on indigenous peoples, including policies, guidelines, tools and good practices more accessible to indigenous peoples. Participants agreed that the web-based repository would be a useful tool, as well as a coordination mechanism for the IASG, and that the time was ripe to move ahead on this proposal. Participants supported the project to go ahead but there remained some divergent views on resource mobilization for project and on-going support. UNPFA agreed to pursue the project as far as possible given the current lack of financial resources by exploring a partnership with the United Nations Development Group's Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism, which manages a human rights portal with a specific webpage on indigenous peoples' rights. Participants agreed that building on existing structures and resources would be a preferable option in order to avoid duplication and ensure a more efficient use of limited resources. It was also noted that the webpage should be clearly linked to the Permanent Forum website, including information on a calendar of upcoming events and milestones. UNPFA also agreed to report back on progress made so that the IASG could consider further steps.

Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples, including through the United Nations Development Group and its Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples for Programming at Country Level

44. SPFII reported on the need for the continuation of training of UN country teams, Governments and indigenous peoples. In this regard, the importance of the national and local level implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was emphasized.

Adoption of the Report and/or Recommendations and Results

45. The meeting decided to provisionally adopt the actions arising from the meeting but suggested that they be circulated to all participating members, including those agencies who participated via video-conferencing. The report and its actions could be adopted after further electronic consultations and then submitted to Permanent Forum for consideration at its next session. The annual IASG meeting closed at 2.30 pm on Friday 30 November 2012.

Annex I

Actions arising from the annual meeting of the IASG

2012

1. The current terms of reference would be circulated by the Chair, electronically to all IASG members for comments, and proposed revisions and suggestions incorporated and the revised draft be considered at the next IASG annual meeting in 2013. The revision may include an additional section for consideration on obligations of members/member agencies.
2. In order to manage the volume of Permanent Forum recommendations accumulated over 11 years, the secretariat (SPFII) may propose to the Permanent Forum members to consider whether recommendations could be noted as completed, in need of revision, ongoing, or retired. Retired recommendations may include superseded, outdated, repetitive or time-bound recommendations. SPFII and/or the IASG could review previously made recommendations starting at 2001 and recommend the retirement of recommendations for the consideration by the Permanent Forum members at each annual session.
3. The SPFII will consider how recommendations made to the UN system from 2001 to 2012, could be analyzed and reorganized according to the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum and then sent to relevant clusters of agencies for each mandated area, for response/action.
4. The IASG would prepare a timely paper on the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals, including main messages (including indigenous issues as cross-cutting and a strong focus on gender, children and youth), in order to ensure indigenous peoples are included in the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable

development goals. Possible entry points for the collaborative paper are: join the current on-line discussion on “Inequalities” (managed by SPFII), encourage indigenous networks to join discussion, and submit the IASG paper.

5. OHCHR and partner agencies would pursue work on indicators and report back at the next IASG annual meeting.
6. IASG agencies would look for opportunities for joint, collaborative and/or back to back capacity-building workshops for indigenous peoples in 2013.
7. In support of the OHCHR fellowship programme, SCBD and other interested agencies would assist by providing capacity building to fellows (potentially through video-conferencing) and consider other means of collaborating in support of the programme.
8. IASG agencies would look for opportunities to support indigenous peoples in preparatory processes for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (September 2014), including through such mechanisms as the provision of funding, making spaces available for this purpose at organized meetings and workshops, and other means as appropriate.
9. IASG agencies would raise awareness among senior managers and heads of agencies about the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and encourage their participation.
10. Relevant agencies (UNICEF, UNFPA and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (OSRSGVAC)) will participate in the International Conference on Child Labour (Brazil 2013) regarding the specific dimensions of the protection of the rights of on indigenous children and youth and child labour.

³ SCBD, WIPO, OHCHR expressed interest in collaborating on indigenous capacity building and, in 2013, will consider back-to-back or combined capacity building events and invite other agencies including UNEP and the Multilateral Environment Agreements to join them in this initiative.

11. Agencies will share experiences regarding free, prior and informed consent and indigenous peoples. This information could be shared through the proposed IASG web-tool/portal.
12. The IASG agrees to move forward on the development of a web portal as a tool for inter-agency collaboration. UNFPA would advance this proposal and report back on initial actions and next steps. The web portal can be, inter alia, a repository of relevant standards, guidelines, information on indicators, as well as programme and policies of relevance to indigenous peoples. The web portal could also provide electronic conferencing facilities, as well as a public and members only section.
13. The IASG would consider, at its next meeting, how to participate in and contribute to the assessment of the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People.
14. The current host agency (SCBD), in consultation with the SPFII and IASG, would identify relevant agencies not currently participating in the IASG and write to their heads, requesting the appointment of a focal point on indigenous issues to participate in the IASG.
15. The IASG would work with SPFII to make available an annual calendar on international events relevant to indigenous peoples to be made available on the Permanent Forum webpage. Individual agencies have the responsibility to provide timely updated information throughout the year.
16. Agencies are requested to submit annual reports to UNPFII to include an executive summary on the front page, which focuses on responses to UNPFII recommendations, in order to assist the SPFII in their analysis of agencies' reports and the preparation of the collation report.

17. The host agency and/or other participating agencies, of the IASG would consider including IASG tasks in the terms of reference for interns each year as added technical support for the IASG.

Annex II

Participants list

Name	Organization
Ms. Samia Slimane	OHCHR/Geneva
Mr. Douglas Nakashima	UNESCO
Mr. Christophe Lalande	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Gleb Raygorodetsky	UNU-IAS Traditional Knowledge Initiative
Mr. Rama Rao Sankurathripathi	WIPO
Ms. Jennifer Tauli-Corpuz	WIPO
Ms. Catharina Cuellar	PAHO/WHO
Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen	UNPFII Secretariat
Ms. Sonia Smallacombe	UNPFII Secretariat
Ms. Cecilia Anicama	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children
Ms. Amy Fraenkel	UNEP (Regional Office for North America)
Ms. Tiina Kurvits	GRID-Arendal
Mr. Alfonso Barragues	UNFPA
Mr. Terence Hay-Edie	GEF Small Grants Programme (UNDP)
Ms. Eileen de Ravin	UNDP/EI
Mr. Michael Taylor	International Land Coalition (ILC)

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<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>
Ms. BAER, Britta	Women's and Children's Health (FWC) World Health Organization, Geneva
Ms. Martina Volpe Donlon	Department of Public Information, New York
Ms. Antonella Cordone	IFAD, Rome, Italy
Ms. Nilla Bernardi	Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (SPFII), New York
Ms. Laetitia Zobel	UNEP, Division of Regional Cooperation, Nairobi
Mr. Albert Kwokwo Barume	International Labour Organization, Geneva
Ms. Beatrice Duncan	UNICEF, New York
Ms. Shireen Said	UNDP New York

Annex III

Agenda and Organization of Work

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. History of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues and its terms of reference.
3. Introduction to the Convention on Biological Diversity and work relevant to indigenous peoples.
4. Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG) responses to current and previous recommendations of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to the IASG and the United Nations system.
5. Opportunities for inter-agency collaborations in the year ahead (2013).
6. Possible strategic directions and upcoming major events for the IASG.
7. Reviewing working methods and mutual collaboration.
8. Proposal on the web-based repository of tools.
9. Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including through the United Nations Development Group and its guidelines on programming at the country level on indigenous issues.
10. Adoption of the report and/or recommendations and results.
11. Closure of the meeting.

Proposed Organization of Work
for the annual meeting of the inter-agency support group
on indigenous peoples' issues

	<i>Plenary</i>
Wednesday 28 November 2012	
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the Meeting (1 hour); 2. History of the IASG and its Terms of Reference (30 minutes); 3. Introduction to the CBD, its protocols and work relevant to indigenous peoples (up to 90 minutes with questions);
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Inter-Agency Support Group On Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG) responses to ...current and previous UNPFII recommendations to the IASG and UN system (up to 3 hours, small drafting committees with chairpersons will be established using the six (6) mandated areas of the UNPFII and chairpersons will present draft proposals back to plenary for adoption and/or further work);
Thursday 29 November 2012	

	<i>Plenary</i>
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<p>5. Opportunities for Inter-Agency collaborations in the year ahead (2013) (up to 90 minutes);</p> <p>6. Possible Strategic Directions and Upcoming Major Events for the IASG (including the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, 2014) (up to 90 minutes);</p>
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<p>7. Reviewing working methods and mutual collaboration.</p> <p>8. Proposal on the web-based repository of tools.</p> <p>9. Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including through United Nations Development Group and its guidelines on programming at the country level on indigenous peoples' issues.</p>
Friday 30 November 2012	
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<p>* Items 7, 8 and 9 will continue as needed during this morning session as needed.</p> <p>8. Other matters</p> <p>9. Adoption of the report.</p> <p>10. Closure of the meeting.</p>
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	(Continued as needed)