



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
Division for Social Policy and Development  
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**International Expert Group Meeting**

**Programme of Work**

**Indigenous Languages:**

**Preservation and Revitalization: Articles 13, 14 and 16 of the  
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**19 to 21 January 2016**

**UNHQ, Room 5**

## **Tuesday, 19 January 2016**

*10.00 am – 10.30 am*

Opening Remarks by Ms. Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Item 1 Election of Chair and Rapporteur

Item 2 Adoption of programme of work

*Opening remarks by:*

*Ms. Megan Davis, Chair Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

*Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen, Chief of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/ DSPD*

*Mr. Oliver Looe, Member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

*10.30 am – 1.00 pm*

*Opening presentation by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

### **Item 3 Context and characteristics of indigenous languages**

- The role of language in indigenous cultures
- The importance of ensuring the survival of indigenous languages
- The role of indigenous peoples' communities, in particular indigenous women's role in the transmission of their languages to future generations
- The revitalization of indigenous peoples' cultures and communities in urban contexts through indigenous languages

*Presentations by:*

*Mr. Alexey Tsykarev, Chair, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

*Ms. Elisa Loncon Antileo*

General Discussion

*3.00 pm – 6.00 pm*

*3.00 pm – 4.30 pm*

### **Item 3 Context and characteristics of indigenous languages (*continued*)**

*Presentation by Ms. Sandra Inuitiq through video conference*

General Discussion

*4.30 pm – 6.00 pm*

### **Item 4 Initiatives and strategies undertaken for, with and by indigenous peoples to recover, use, revitalize and disseminate indigenous languages**

- Sharing of examples of initiatives and strategies
- Sharing of examples of the use of information and communication technologies.

- Media: television broadcasting, film and video making, community radio, and journalism.
  - Web tools and digital media: multilingual platforms, free software, nintendo Apps, mobile Apps.
- What has been shown to have the best results; what has not worked well?
  - How can we raise awareness about these initiatives and strategies?
  - How can we increase the use of these initiatives and strategies by indigenous peoples and the broader societies in which they live?
  - Lessons learned from initiatives and strategies to recover, use, revitalize and disseminate non-indigenous languages

*Presentations by:*

*Ms. Amy D. Kalili*

*Mr. Richard Grounds*

General Discussion

### **Wednesday, 20 January 2016**

*10.00 am – 1.00 pm*

*10.00 am – 11.00 am*

**Item 4      Initiatives and strategies undertaken for, with and by indigenous peoples to recover, use, revitalize and disseminate indigenous languages  
(continued)**

*Presentations by:*

*Mr. Alberto Muenala*

*Ms. Tatiana Degai*

*Mr. Thierre Kranzler*

General Discussion

*11.00 am – 1.00 pm*

**Item 5      Lessons learned from State educational systems to strengthen or accommodate indigenous languages**

- Experiences of State education systems in strengthening indigenous languages
- The impact of bilingual education at elementary and secondary levels
- Good practices and challenges developing curriculum and educational texts in indigenous languages
- The role and impact of language ‘standardization’ on indigenous languages
- Other mechanisms that exist within States – e.g. interpretation in judicial and/or administrative proceedings, access to public documents and information in indigenous languages, etc.?

*Presentations by:*

*Mr. Mathura Bikash Tripura*

*Mr. Luis Enrique Lopez*

General Discussion

3.00 pm – 6.00 pm

3.00 pm – 4.30 pm

**Item 5**            **Lessons learned from State educational systems or accommodate indigenous languages (*continued*)**

General Discussion

4.30 pm – 6.00 pm

**Item 6**            **What more can be done to support the survival, revitalization, use and promotion of indigenous languages**

- Actions to be taken to increase the number of fluent speakers — not just documenting or archiving — of the most critically endangered languages
- What kind of support can be provided, both financially and otherwise to support the survival, revitalization, use and promotion of indigenous languages?
- What is the United Nations system doing to address this issue and how can its work be strengthened?

*Presentation by:*

*Mr. Craig Cornelius*

*Mr. Eddie Avila (recorded video message)*

General Discussion

### **Thursday, 21 January 2016**

10.00 am – 1.00 pm

**Item 6**            **What more can be done to support the survival, revitalization, use and promotion of indigenous languages (*continued*)**

General Discussion

3.00pm – 6.00pm

**Item 7**            **Adoption of Conclusions and Recommendations**

Closing Remarks by Mr. Lenni Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs