

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

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

The Permanent Forum's report of the fifteenth session of 2016 includes a number of recommendations within its mandated areas, some of which are addressed to UN system agencies, funds and programmes (attached).

The report can be found at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions-2/unpfii-fifteenth-session.html>

The 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 and other relevant issues.

The responses will be compiled into one report for the sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum which will take place from 24 April to 5 May 2017. All responses will be placed on the DESA/DSPD website on Indigenous at:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples>

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

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **1 January 2017** to:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Social Policy and Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Room: S-2954
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Telephone: 917-367-5100
Email: indigenous_un@un.org and dogank@un.org

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The sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **24 April to 5 May 2017**.

Draft Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum:
 - (a) Empowerment of indigenous women;
 - (b) Indigenous youth.
4. Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
6. Dialogue with Member States.
7. Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.
8. Discussion on the theme “Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration”.
9. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
10. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples with regard to indigenous human rights defenders.
11. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:
 - (a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies or other measures;
 - (b) Ways to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations;
 - (c) Implementation of the United Nations system-wide action plan on indigenous peoples.
12. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, and emerging issues.
13. Provisional agenda for the seventeenth session.
14. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its sixteenth session

Questionnaire

The theme of the Permanent Forum's session in 2017 will be:

Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Measures taken to implement the Declaration

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

With respect to the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your agency, fund and/or programme:¹

- i.* Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.

The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect is not explicitly listed in the recommendations. However, it contributes to discussions at the Inter-agency Support Group (IASG) as required.

- ii.* What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency's implementation of the Forum's recommendations?

The mandate of the Special Advisers includes strengthening the collective capacity to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity (atrocities crimes). This includes contributing to system-wide United Nations prevention efforts, as well as strengthening the resilience of Member States and regional organizations against the risk of commission of these crimes and violations. To this end, the Office of the Special Advisers has developed a Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes which includes risk factors and related indicators. In its engagement with Member States and civil society, the Office also encourages consideration of specific policy actions to address and mitigate those risks. Many of the Forum's recommendations include elements thematically to them. In short, our efforts to strengthen UN's and Member States' collective capacity to prevent, constitutes an enabling factor for our Office's work in this area.

- iii.* What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

Our Office's work with partners is often influenced by the sensitivity associated to the crime of genocide in particular. However, emphasis on prevention has permitted us to implement activities in coordination with national authorities in a number of States around the world.

¹ See attached document entitled 'Recommendations addressed to the UN Agencies' to facilitate your responses.

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

As requested in the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (2014), a system-wide action plan (SWAP) to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was launched by the Secretary General at the UN Permanent Forum in May 2016. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made in the implementation of the system-wide action plan during its 2017 session.² For ease of reference, the questions have been framed under the six key elements of the SWAP-Indigenous Peoples as follows:

1. Raising awareness of the UN Declaration

Please provide information on any activities that raise awareness of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including key messages, advocacy and other media and outreach initiatives. Please provide information on publications, films, audio material, maps, or other materials that feature or focus on the UN Declaration and on indigenous peoples. Please also provide links to the relevant websites and other sources.

The Office of the Special Advisers has presented the Declaration in three of the focal point meetings of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention. This Network, established in April 2012, brings together 18 Member States from the region of the Americas and provides an opportunity to coordinate national policies and implement joint activities connected to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Specifically, the Office presented the content of the Declaration in the focal point meetings held in June 2015 (Santiago de Chile), December 2015 (Brasilia) and June 2016 (Montevideo). This was done in the context of a broader presentation on a research project developed by our Office on “RtoP & Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Contextual Factors Affecting the Implementation of Atrocity Crime Prevention Strategies”. This research project has identified a number of recommendations for Member States which our Office is encouraging the Latin American Network to take forward. This document is in the final phase of completion. An Executive Summary outlining key recommendations will be prepared.

(Website of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention: <http://redlatinoamericana.org/>)

2. Supporting the implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level

- i.* Please provide information on the measures that have been taken by your agency, fund or programme to support national partners in reform and implementation of legal

² See Report of the 15th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2016/43) at para. 73.

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frameworks, policies, strategies and plans to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples including through joint programming. Please also include information on indigenous women in your responses.

As part of its work in support of the Latin American Network on Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, the Office encourages Member States to assess vulnerability of groups at risk and to develop policies aimed at mitigating such risk. In a number of States, this has involved consideration of establishment of inter-ministerial national committees for the prevention of genocide and other atrocity crimes. In others, States are developing educational curricula for government officials on genocide and atrocity prevention, and implementing specific capacity-building workshops. Our Office is supporting these efforts, often via participation in specific activities in capitals.

- ii.* Please provide information on any support provided to Member States to mainstream the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 in national development plans and in the Common Country Assessment (CCA/United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs).

None in particular, other than encouraging national Latin American Network focal points to take this matter into consideration. This is particularly relevant in cases in which there are plans for establishment of national committees on genocide and atrocity prevention.

- iii.* Please provide information on any measures taken or planned to promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.

None in particular, other than encouraging Country Teams and Resident Coordinators to support national efforts led by the focal points of the Latin American Network on Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention.

3. Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will continue to address indigenous issues in the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- i.* Has your agency/organization taken any measures to incorporate indigenous issues into programming to implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?

There is no specific programming requirement connected to the 2030 Agenda for our Office.

- ii.* Have indigenous peoples participated in programs, projects or any other activities related to the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? Please also include information on indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth in your responses.

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There is no specific programming requirement connected to the 2030 Agenda for our Office.

- iii.* Please include information on reports or other documents prepared by your agency on progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples. Also include information on any measures taken or planned to gather or assist with the collection of statistical data on indigenous peoples, in particular as related to the SDG indicators for target 1.4 (secure tenure rights to land), target 2.3 (income of small-scale food producers), target 4.5 (parity in access to education) and target 10.3/16.b (experience of discrimination).

There is no specific programming requirement connected to the 2030 Agenda for our Office.

4. Mapping of existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP

- i.* Please provide information on any specific standards and guidelines on indigenous peoples adopted or planned by your agency/organization.

As mentioned above, our Office has developed a research project on “RtoP & Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Contextual Factors Affecting the Implementation of Atrocity Crime Prevention Strategies”. This research project has identified a number of recommendations for Member States which our Office is encouraging the Latin American Network to take forward. This document is in the final phase of completion. An Executive Summary outlining key recommendations will be prepared.

Also, our Office is encouraging Member States to implement the recommendations included in the successive annual Secretary-General reports on the responsibility to protect, related to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. These reports can be found at:

<http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/responsibility.shtml>

- ii.* Please provide information on any training materials prepared or planned related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.

While our Office has developed training materials connected to risk factors for atrocity crimes and mitigating measures to respond to them, no specific training module on the UN Declaration has been prepared.

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iii. Please provide information on current resources and funds allocated to effectively implementing the UN Declaration. Please also provide information on any joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the implementation of the UN Declaration.

No specific allocation connected to the Declaration has been made, but our Office provides funding (on a case by case basis) to national activities on genocide and atrocity prevention. As mentioned above, this has included elements related to the content of the Declaration, particularly in the Latin American region.

5. Developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel

Please provide information on any capacity development initiatives that your organization is conducting for indigenous peoples, government officials and UN staff. Also include information on the participation of indigenous women, children and youth as well as indigenous persons with disabilities in your response.

As mentioned above, the Office has developed training modules on a number of elements connected to atrocity crimes risk assessment and response. These are used mostly in capacity-building workshops in capitals and target government officials. Traditionally, this has included representatives from the Offices of the President, Ombudsmen's Offices and Ministries of Interior, Defense and Foreign Affairs, among others. Our Office has also provided training to UN staff both in Country Teams and in Headquarters.

In parallel, our Office has contributed to national discussions aimed at implementing specific resilience strategies targeting indigenous communities when requested by Member States. Most significantly, this was done in November 2016 in Brazil (one day workshop), in the context of efforts to implement the recommendations by the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues after her March 2016 mission to the country. This workshop was attended by a number of indigenous communities in the country.

6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes

Please provide information on any support provided for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at relevant UN bodies. Please also provide information on any consultative mechanisms, tools and other measures to obtain free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.

In preparation of each year's annual report on the responsibility to protect, the Office submits questionnaires to Member States and encourages them to undertake broad internal consultations in the preparation of their responses. However, there is no monitoring of those internal processes.