

# THE MESSAGE STICK

Quarterly Newsletter of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the **MESSAGE STICK**<sup>1</sup>, the newsletter that highlights the activities undertaken by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and its Secretariat for the period from April to June 2006.

The situation of indigenous peoples in many parts of the world continues to be critical. However, the historical and constant struggles of the indigenous movements have been generating important changes regarding their identity, education, environment, human rights, economic and social development, health and other areas.

The indigenous movement is today spreading its influence to the development agenda, building on its victories and also on the United Nations overall human rights agenda, which has today become our common policy framework.

The establishment of the Permanent Forum is testimony to the increasing profile of indigenous issues within the United Nations system. As a result UNPFII members have been invited to attend various international meetings of different UN agencies, inter-governmental organizations and indigenous organizations.

In this newsletter we would like to share some important highlights of the Fifth Session of the UNPFII held in May. The Permanent Forum directed relevant recommendations to the newly established United Nations Human Rights Council, which adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, legislation that had been debated for 11 years at the Commission on Human Rights Working Group.

We hope that you will find this edition of the Message Stick informative and useful. We look forward to receiving your feedback at the following address for comments, questions, and suggestions:

[IndigenousPermanentForum@un.org](mailto:IndigenousPermanentForum@un.org)

*Secretariat of the UNPFII*

<sup>1</sup> A Message Stick is a traditional Australian Aboriginal method of correspondence whereby runners would deliver messages carved in symbols on a piece of wood to inform other indigenous peoples of upcoming events.



## REPRESENTATION OF THE UNPFII AT IMPORTANT MEETINGS OF RELEVANCE TO ITS MANDATE

### **Participation of Ms. Tauli-Corpuz and other UNPFII members at the Human Rights Council, 19 -30 June 2006, Geneva, Switzerland.**

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on 21 June 2006 addressed the first session of the Human Rights Council and brought to the attention of the Council seven important recommendations of the Permanent Forum at its fifth session in May 2006, which are of direct relevance to the work of this Council.

The Forum expressed its conviction that a Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will be an instrument of great value to advance the rights and aspirations of the world's indigenous peoples. The Forum therefore recommends the adoption without amendments of the draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as contained in the proposals of the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights Working Group on the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (see E/CN.4/2006/79, annex I) by Human Rights Council and General Assembly during its sixty-first session, in 2006. This would represent a major achievement for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

In anticipation of the first session of the Human Rights Council, the Forum recommended that indigenous issues be a standing agenda item of the Council and that due attention be paid to the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. The role of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples should be maintained and further strengthened within the Council.

The Permanent Forum encourages the Human Rights Council to pay special attention, through monitoring mechanisms of the Council, to the implementation of recommendations of the Special Rapporteurs pertaining to indigenous peoples.

The active participation of indigenous peoples and indigenous organizations should be ensured when matters affecting their rights are discussed by the Human Rights Council and any subsidiary bodies or processes it decides to establish.

The Forum would welcome an invitation from the Human Rights Council to the Forum Chairperson to participate in the programmed activities of the Council related to indigenous peoples' issues. Ms. Tauli-Corpuz expressed the indeed honoured by the invitation of the Council to its first session, viewing it as the beginning of a close cooperation between our two bodies.

Recalling that the United Nations Human Rights Council will assume, review and, where necessary, improve and rationalize all mandates, mechanisms, functions and responsibilities of the Commission on Human Rights in order to maintain a system of special procedures, expert advice and complaint procedures; and recalling that the Council shall complete the review within one year after the holding of its first session, the Permanent Forum strongly urges the Human Rights Council to ensure the full participation of representatives of indigenous peoples in that review process. The Forum further urges the Human Rights Council to maintain and improve mechanisms, mandates, special procedures, expert advice mechanisms and complaint procedures relevant and pertaining to the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of

indigenous peoples.

The Permanent Forum recommends to the Human Rights Council that in the course of a universal periodic review of the situation of indigenous peoples of a country under consideration be examined.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz, in her final remarks said "...At the Fifth Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, more than 150 indigenous peoples' organizations and networks, all over the world, submitted a statement asking for the General Assembly to adopt the Declaration... I therefore reiterate and appeal to this Council to demonstrate its moral leadership and make its mark on history by adopting, at this first session, the Declaration of the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples."

### **Participation of Ms. Lux de Coti and SPFII at the third session of the World Urban Forum, 19-23 June 2006, Vancouver, Canada.**

Ms. Lux de Coti and SPFII attended many of the Networking and Roundtable events including a Roundtable on Indigenous Peoples and the Media organized by the National Film Board of Canada and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.

The World Urban Forum was established by the United Nations to examine one of the most pressing issues facing the world today: rapid urbanization and its impact on communities, cities, economies and policies. A major challenge is to minimize burgeoning poverty in cities, improve the urban poor's access to basic facilities such as shelter, clean water and sanitation and achieve environment-friendly, sustainable urban growth and development.

This was the very first time that Indigenous issues had been included in the World Urban Forum. The UNPFII exhibition proved to be popular as participants eagerly took home the Forum's pamphlets, booklets and posters from the booth.

The fourth World Urban Forum will be held in Nanjing, China in June 2008. To learn about the session, please visit at <http://www.unhabitat.org/wuf/2006/default.asp>

## MEETINGS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNPFII AND ITS SECRETARIAT

### **Expert Workshop on Indigenous Peoples and Migration, 6 - 7 April 2006, Geneva, Switzerland**

Although international migration has moved to the top of governments' agendas, there is little if any information on indigenous peoples and migration or a framework for addressing the phenomenon consistently and systematically.

An Expert Workshop on Indigenous Peoples and Migration, cosponsored by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (SPFII), held on 6 and 7 June in Geneva, provided an initial mapping out of the intersection of these two issues. The workshop marked the first expert-level meeting on the nexus between indigenous issues and migration and was in response to a recommendation of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

The meeting brought together more than 30 participants including representatives and experts from 5 of the 7 socio-cultural regions of indigenous peoples including Africa, the Arctic and Europe, Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific and representatives from international agencies including the World Bank, UNESCO, UNHCR, OHCHR and ILO as well as observers from Permanent Missions of Member States in Geneva. Ms. Nicolaisen, Vice-Chair of the UNPFII participated at the meeting.

The workshop discussions were outlined in four key areas: indigenous peoples as voluntary migrants; indigenous peoples as forced migrants and displaced peoples; impact of migration of indigenous peoples on indigenous communities; and impact of migration of non-indigenous populations on indigenous communities.

The outcomes of the workshop included underlining the importance of indigenous peoples' cultural tie to their lands that may affect their migration. Participants also emphasized development processes in addition to development objectives, specifically noting the need for indigenous peoples' participation to inform and determine policies that may have a direct impact on their territories and their migration.

They also stressed the importance of sharing best practices and lessons learned amongst all stakeholders. The gender perspective and the need for disaggregated data to include indigenous peoples in national statistics were also underscored.

Additional recommendations of this expert workshop included effective implementation of international law and an exploration of mainstreaming indigenous issues and migration into development policies. Positive attributes of indigenous migration, such as the use of remittances, the transfer of skills and knowledge, the enhanced status of indigenous migrants abroad, and the increased global knowledge of indigenous peoples through their migration, were also discussed.

The report of the workshop (E/C.19/2006/CRP.5) was presented to the UNPFII Fifth Session and it includes key conclusions and recommendations from this workshop regarding ways the UN System, other international, regional and national organizations and indigenous communities can collaborate. The Permanent Forum endorsed the recommendations of the workshop which will inform the High-level Dialogue on Migration at the General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2006.

To read the report of the workshop, please visit the SPFII website at [http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/session\\_fifth.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/session_fifth.html)

### **Conference on Poverty and Indigenous Peoples, 9 – 10 May 2006, New York, USA.**

Mr. Id Balkassam, Mr. Langeveldt, Ms. Lux de Coti, Mr. Lyng, Ms. Nicolaisen, Mr. Sulyandziga, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz, members of the Permanent Forum, participated at the Conference on Poverty and Indigenous Peoples organized by the World Bank, in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Indigenous leaders, representatives of governments, international financial institutions, civil society and UN Agencies, as well as the participants from the four sponsoring organizations focused the discussion around indigenous peoples' definition of poverty, changing the current development paradigm and lack of title to lands. It was pointed out that conventional economic indicators used to measure poverty reflect neither the true extent of poverty, nor the degree of Indigenous Peoples' well-being. These indicators, for example, do not necessarily capture Indigenous Peoples' values.

It was also noted that Indigenous Peoples live in areas rich in resources yet they face poverty at disproportional levels. Asset stripping and resource degradation by outsiders is a formidable problem facing Indigenous Peoples, and is exacerbated by a lack of legal title to their lands.

## **FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNPFII**

### **Highlights of the Fifth Session, 15 - 26 May 2006**

#### **Participation**

Extremely rich participation: some 1200 indigenous peoples' representatives, NGOs and academia participated, at least 31 UN system and other inter-governmental organizations, more than 60 Member States.

High level participation included, the Foreign Minister of Bolivia, the Vice Minister of Community Affairs of Bolivia, the OAS Chair of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, the African Union's Chair of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations /Communities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, the Acting President of the General Assembly, the Head of the Agency for Indigenous Affairs of Mexico, the President of the Committee on Indigenous Peoples of the Venezuelan Parliament, the Chairperson of the Philippines Committee on Indigenous Peoples, the Chairman of the Arctic Council and other high officials.

#### **Special Events and Region-Specific Side Events**

More than 55 special events including three region-specific side-events, on North America, the Arctic and Russia, the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, took place during the session.

#### **Substantive output of the session**

- **On the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**, although the Forum is well aware that the MDGs are not to be formally amended, the Forum makes valuable recommendations on how to interpret and apply the MDGs in practice so that indigenous peoples can be included and benefit from these processes. Indigenous peoples' participation and good governance in the MDG processes is crucial and the Forum makes strategic recommendations on how to improve indigenous peoples' inclusion in MDG country reports, poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) and the UN Common Country Assessment and Development Assistance Framework prepared by UN Country Teams.
- The Forum reiterates that the Human Rights-Based Approach to Development, espoused by the UN system, must be given practical effect as far as indigenous peoples are concerned.
- Data collection and disaggregation is again stressed by the Forum as a crucial issue and special emphasis is placed on involving indigenous peoples in the understanding of what poverty and well-being is for indigenous peoples as well as in setting benchmarks
- Gender-related recommendations of the Forum, demand a commitment to implement the MDGs for indigenous peoples on the basis of gender equality.
- On HIV/AIDS, the Forum recommends urgent measures on the part of governments, the UN system and indigenous communities themselves to prevent and face this extraordinary threat to indigenous communities.
- The Forum also recommends special and culturally-sensitive measures for preventing maternal and infant mortality in indigenous communities and calls for special and targeted action by governments and the UN system.
- On MDG 8, which requires increased cooperation for development, the Forum requests increased ODA and

special measures to lift indigenous peoples out of marginalization; the Forum also notes that MDGs in developed countries are mostly viewed as a foreign policy issue—while in fact they should be applied also internally vis a vis the indigenous peoples living in those countries who face extremely difficult circumstances

- Indigenous traditional knowledge was a cross-cutting theme this year, namely how it contributes to development and how it needs to be protected so it continues to play its role in the future for the well-being of indigenous peoples.

#### Half Day discussion on Africa

- Very useful discussion with representatives of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, agencies, Indigenous Peoples Organizations and others.
- Attention was drawn to the situation and contributions of indigenous peoples in Africa and the Forum is looking forward to increasing engagement of African Governments on that regard. The forum makes a number of recommendations regarding capacity-building, health, education and other issues.

#### Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

- The Forum is making recommendations that will strengthen action on the ground based on the Programme of Action of the Decade adopted by the General Assembly last year.
- The Forum supports strengthened coordination with various UN bodies, including the Commission of Sustainable Development and others.
- The Forum is also asking for monitoring reports on progress being made towards implementing the Programme of Action of the Decade.

#### Impact of the UN Reform on indigenous issues

- The Forum has been discussing the possible implications from the establishment of the Human Rights Council: agenda of the Council, strengthening the human rights procedures on indigenous peoples' rights and adoption of Draft Declaration.
- The Forum believes that the adoption of the Declaration later this year would be a very valuable instrument for all and would contribute to strengthening of dialogues and partnerships. It would also be of great value to the work of the Forum and therefore the Forum supports its adoption by the General Assembly this year.

#### Special consultations held during the session outside plenary meetings

- Included a meeting with International Financial Institutions; a special conference on poverty and Indigenous Peoples was organized by the World Bank the week before the session;
- A meeting of the Bureau of the Forum with the Bureau of ECOSOC,
- Meetings with the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues,
- A meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, Mr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen.
- A meeting with the Public Council of the Russian Federation and others.

#### Implementation focus

- Two important papers prepared by members showed increasing implementation of the Forum's recommendations.
- The Forum decided to keep the focus on implementation and participatory monitoring and to continue looking at and strengthening its work methodologies.

#### Future work

- To the High-Level Dialogue on Migration at the General Assembly later this year. The Forum formulated some constructive recommendations on migration and indigenous peoples. We expect that next year the Forum will place special emphasis, among others, on the issues faced by urban indigenous peoples—and also the impact of migration on indigenous communities.
- **The special theme for the 6th Session of UNPFII will be Territories, Lands and Natural Resources.**

### SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

#### Permanent Forum Bureau Members assess the proposals for the Trust Fund for the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 11-12 May 2006, United Nations Headquarters

A meeting was held in the second week of May to assess the proposals for the Trust Fund for the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

Applications for the next round of Trust Fund grants are open now and the closing deadline is 15 November 2006. There will be no exceptions made for proposals submitted after the deadline.

A link to the guidelines in English and Spanish is provided on the United Nations Permanent Forum website. Guidelines in French and Russian will be provided at a later stage.

The proposals will be assessed in May 2007 and applicants will receive notice thereafter. When submitting a project proposal please be aware that is important to include a contact address and preferably a valid e-mail address, so that the Secretariat can get in touch with your organization to verify information according to the grant guidelines.

Please submit your proposal to the following address:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues /  
DSPD/DESA

Two United Nations Plaza, Room 1772  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Or submit the proposal electronically to:

[indigenoufund@un.org](mailto:indigenoufund@un.org)

#### Launching of the Poster "Indigenous Peoples: Partnership for Action and Dignity" devoted to the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005-2015).

During the fifth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the opening ceremony on 16 May there was a special meeting and event to launch the Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of World's Indigenous People with its five objectives, which reaffirm the main priorities till 2015. Also, at the opening of the cultural exhibit and reception that took place at the UN Visitor's Lobby was launched with performances by indigenous artists from around the world the poster for the Second Decade.

The design for the poster came from a painting by the famous Inga indigenous artist Carlos Jacanamijoy from Colombia (slightly adapted for the purpose of the poster by the UN

Department of Public Information).

Mr. Jacanamijoy, who has a Master's Degree in Plastic Arts from the National University of Colombia, Bogotá; belongs to Ingas, who are the survivors of an ancient, haughty and proud indigenous peoples, settled in the southern tip of the Colombian Andes, a land reached by the Incas, in the expansionist spread of their empire through pre-Columbian South America, almost as far as Argentina. You can visit Mr. Jacanamijoy's website to see more paintings at:

<http://www.carlosiacanamijoy.com>

## INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ISSUES

### **Development of the Project for Engaging indigenous women: local-government capacity-building through new technologies in Latin America.**

In December 2005, the General Assembly approved the project "Engaging indigenous women: local-government capacity-building through new technologies in Latin America", under the UN Development Account. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs will be the coordinator of the project, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The overall goal of the project is to strengthen the capacity of organizations and institutions at the national and community levels in selected Latin American countries to meaningfully engage indigenous women in decision-making processes by improving access to information and new communication technologies. The formulation, implementation and evaluation of the project will respond to the principle of free, prior and informed consent. Through capacity building and indigenous women's effective participation, the project intends to elevate indigenous women's self awareness and esteem in critical areas, improve their participation in decision-making processes and promote self-affirmation of their cultural and gender identities.

The project will also establish and/ or support local and regional networks connecting communities and promoting self-sustaining connectivity initiatives. The substantive focus of the programme lies in the areas of development, analysis, production and dissemination of relevant and appropriate ICT material that will reach a broader number of indigenous women as well as governmental institutions and the UN system.

## NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

### **The SPFII hosted the training programme *Global capacity building for Indigenous Peoples*, 10 – 12 May 2006, United Nations Headquarters.**

The SPFII in cooperation with Tribal Link Foundation and Land is Life hosted a three days training session called "Global capacity building for Indigenous Peoples" held before the fifth session of the UNPFII. Indigenous fellows from the Spanish Fellowship Programme organized by the OHCHR and Deusto University from Bilbao, Spain, attended the training sessions and also some other 15 indigenous participants from all around the world.

The participants gained knowledge in the field of the UN system in general, as well as the Permanent Forum's mandate and its working methodology.

### **The SPFII hosted training for indigenous leaders from Guatemala and Ecuador of the Institute for Training and Development, 1 June 2006, United Nations Headquarters**

The SPFII hosted a training session on the UNPFII, its

mandate and its working methodology for indigenous leaders from Guatemala and Ecuador. They had been participating in a nineteen month project, that brings indigenous leaders from those countries together with North American Native American leaders, academics and other practitioners to explore common challenges to the sustainability of indigenous cultural identity throughout the Western Hemisphere. This project is conducted by the Institute for Training and Development. To learn about the project, please visit <http://www.itd-amherst.org/>

### **SPFII participated in the International Jury Meeting for the UNESCO Literacy Prizes, 5 – 9 June 2006, Paris, France.**

The United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012) is an integral component of Education for All, providing both a platform and an impetus for achieving all six goals of the Dakar Framework for Action. This meeting was held to examine thirty-three nominations submitted by Governments and six nominations submitted by non-governmental organizations in compliance with the stipulations and criteria of the General Rules Governing the Prize of Prizes for Meritorious Work in Literacy.

The Literacy Awards are the UNESCO International Reading Association Literacy Prize, the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize and the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, in recognition of the services of institutions, organizations or individual having distinguished themselves by making a particular meritorious and effective contribution to the struggle against adult non-literacy.

SPFII participated at this meeting taking into account the recommendations of the UNPFII related to Education and the Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

To learn about the Literacy Prizes, please visit UNESCO's website at [http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=40338&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=40338&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

### **SPFII participated to the Regional Training for Professional Staff on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Asia, 26 to 30 June 2006, Chiangmai, Thailand.**

Around 43 professional staff from ILO regional and sub-regional offices in Asia, governments and other relevant agencies and institutions participated at the Regional Training for Professional Staff on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Asia organized by ILO in cooperation with IWGIA and AIPP.

The main objectives of the training were: (i) identify particular indigenous issues relevant to country, region or thematic area of work, (ii) be familiar with main policies, legislation, resources, institutions, processes and networks relevant to indigenous and tribal peoples with the focus on Asia, (iii) provide training and policy advices on indigenous peoples' rights, (iv) integrate indigenous peoples rights in broader policies and programmes and (v) ensure the effective participation and culturally appropriate responses to indigenous peoples in the work relevant to them.

The SPFII made a presentation on the UNPFII, its mandate and its working methodology and the film "Indigenous peoples and the United Nations" was screened. The training provided to staff working on indigenous issues in Asia the opportunity to network, share experiences and perspectives and discussed regional perspectives on advancing indigenous rights at regional level.

## SPECIAL NEWS

### **The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted the**

### **Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 29 June 2006, Geneva, Switzerland**

The newly established United Nations Human Rights Council adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, legislation that had been debated for 11 years at the Commission on Human Rights Working Group. The 47 Member States of the Council adopted the declaration by a vote of 30 in favour, 12 abstentions and 2 against (3 absent).

Ambassador of Mexico, Luis Alfonso de Alba, the newly elected President of the Council in reference to the negotiations expressed "It had been a very difficult process because we were forced to strike a balance between the interests of very different points of views from Governments and indigenous peoples".

"But finally we came to a compromise. This has shown how the majority of the Member States, as well as the very wide majority of indigenous peoples, have come together for the benefit of the indigenous peoples around the world," Mr. de Alba concluded.

The Declaration will now be forwarded to the General Assembly's Fall session for final adoption.

Some experts have said that the creation of legal standards and rules through the adoption of an international declaration would ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples.

**Ms. Lux de Coti received the Award "Bartolomé de las Casas 2005". On behalf of the Forum, Ms. Lux de Coti also received the Honorific Mention of the UNPFII of the same award, 8 June 2006, Madrid, Spain.**

Ms. Lux de Coti, member of the UNPFII received the award "Bartolomé de las Casas 2005" from Don Felipe de Borbon, Prince of Asturias in Madrid, Spain. At the same time, Ms. Lux de Coti on behalf of the Permanent Forum received the Honorific Mention of the UNPFII of the same award in recognition of the Forum as a multilateral body that guarantees the presence and voices of indigenous peoples in the United Nations system.

The Bartolomé de las Casas Award was established 15 years ago by the Spanish Government in order to grant a public and solemn recognition to - persons or institutions - who have distinguished themselves in the defense of the interests, rights and identity of indigenous peoples in Latin America.

#### **UNPFII Recommendations Database on the website.**

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has, in its five sessions to date, made many of recommendations addressed to the UN agencies and funds, inter-governmental organizations, States, NGOs and others. To facilitate the monitoring of implementation of recommendations, SPFII is making a database of all UNPFII recommendations. The recommendations from the Third and Fourth Sessions are now available at <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/recommendations.htm> Recommendations from the remaining Sessions will be made available here as soon as they are ready.

## TABLE OF NEWS AND ACTIVITIES BY MONTH

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- Development of the Project for Engaging indigenous women: local-government capacity-building through new technologies in Latin America.
- UNPFII Recommendations Database on the website.

### **MAY**

- Conference on Poverty and Indigenous Peoples, 9 – 10 May 2006, New York, USA
- Permanent Forum Bureau Members assess the proposals for the Trust Fund for the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 11-12 May 2006, United Nations Headquarters
- The SPFII hosted the training programme "Global capacity building for Indigenous Peoples", 10 – 12 May 2006, United Nations Headquarters
- Highlights of the fifth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 15 – 26 May 2006, United Nations Headquarters.
- Launching of the Poster "Indigenous Peoples: Partnership for Action and Dignity" devoted to the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005-2015).

### **JUNE**

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