

THE MESSAGE STICK

Quarterly Newsletter of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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Sixth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, May 2007

Photo by: Emmanuel Audelo Enríquez

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **MESSAGE STICK**¹, the newsletter that highlights the activities undertaken by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) as well as its Secretariat for the period from April to June 2007.

Around the world, indigenous peoples are fighting for the recognition of their right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their rights to participate fully, if they choose to, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the state as it is stated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples².

In the thirty-year history of indigenous issues at the United Nations, the indigenous movement has been influencing the UN's overall agenda. The establishment of the Permanent Forum is testimony to the increasing profile of indigenous issues within the United Nations system. As a result, Members of the Permanent Forum have been invited to attend various international meetings by different UN Agencies, Inter-Governmental organizations and indigenous organizations.

This newsletter covers highlights on the sixth session of UNPFII and its special theme "Territories, lands and natural resources", which are of fundamental importance to indigenous peoples since they constitute the basis of their life, cultural survival and economic livelihood. Information on the new elected UNPFII Members for 2008-2010, among other relevant news.

We look forward to receiving your feedback comments, questions, and suggestions at the following address:

IndigenousPermanentForum@un.org

Secretariat of the UNPFII

¹ 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.

² Adopted by the Human Rights Council in June 2006.



IMPORTANT MEETINGS

Representation of the UNPFII at important meetings of relevance to its mandate

Participation of Ms. Ida Nicolaisen at the "Eighth Biennial Meeting of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies", 4-6 April 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The meeting was attended by 53 Academies and the participants included a number of Nobel Laureates.

Ms. Nicolaisen gave the opening lecture of the Symposium on "Human Rights, Science, and Society" entitled: Rights and Society – The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - a Burning Human Rights' Issue".

The Network adopted a Summary Statement, which included the following paragraph: "The Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies discussed the fragile social and cultural situation of the World's 375 million indigenous peoples and their ongoing human rights struggle. Killings of indigenous leaders, scholars, and health professionals are widespread. The Network intends to look closely at this situation, to address cases of unjust imprisonment of indigenous scholars, and to follow the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted in 2006 by the Human Rights Council of the United Nations."

Participation of Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz at the conceptual workshop on working definitions for the World Report on Cultural Diversity, 26-27 April 2007, UNESCO, Paris, France.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz participated at the conceptual workshop on working definitions for the World Report on Cultural Diversity organized by UNESCO. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss new guidelines for the institutional reflection on "cultures" and to test some of the assumptions UNESCO wishes to put forward in the World Report.

Three possible objectives have been identified for it:

- Build stronger bridges between the academic thinking over cultures and the institutional/political initiatives, in this respect, particularly by confronting institutionally agreed definitions and new insights on cultural issues.
- Examining the possibility of a new understanding of universalism, taking into account the diversity of cultural contexts and hence departing from the initial Eurocentricism of this notion.
- Rationalizing the conceptual framework and definitions to be used for the World Report.

The participants to this workshop were leading thinkers, representative of a diversity of worldviews and thinking approaches.

MEETINGS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNPFII AND ITS SECRETARIAT

DPI/NGO Briefing on "Indigenous Peoples' Lands, Territories, Natural Resources: Livelihoods and Emerging Issues", 19 April 2007, Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium, UNHQ, New York

The briefing entitled "Indigenous Peoples' Lands, Territories, Natural Resources: Livelihoods and Emerging Issues" was organized by DPI/NGO Conference in cooperation with SPFII and the NGO Committee on the United Nations International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Before the panel discussion, the awareness-raising film entitled "Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations, Vol. 1" was screened.

Speakers included: H. E. Mr. Javier Loayza, Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Bolivia to the United Nations; Ms. Sonia Smallacombe, Social Affairs Officer, Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and Mr. Roberto Mucaro Borrero, Chairperson of the NGO Committee on the International Decade for the World's Indigenous Peoples.

The briefing looked at the traditional lifestyles, practices, and struggles of indigenous peoples around the world. There are over 370 million indigenous peoples living in some 70 countries. While they view themselves as caregivers of the land, the needs, human rights, and challenges of indigenous communities have remained largely neglected by national governments. Discussions included the current struggle to maintain indigenous peoples' traditional cultures; environmentally sound relationship with the land; and sustainable use of natural resources.

The event is available at www.un.org/dpi/ngosection

SPFII capacity-building seminar for delegations of Member States, 17 April 2007, UNHQ, New York

Following an annual practice, SPFII organized a one-day seminar on Indigenous Issues for delegations of Member States in New York on 17 April 2007. Some 30 delegations participated in a programme that included presentations from UN system officials on a large variety of topics.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Permanent Forum Bureau Members assess the proposals for the Trust Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 10-11 May 2007, UNHQ

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.

A link to the guidelines in English, Spanish, French and Russian is provided on the United Nations Permanent Forum website (http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/second_trustfund.html).

Preparations of the meeting of the Forum in Salekhard, Russian Federation, 1 - 4 July 2007.

The Forum's members, as well as SPFII staff will be attending the Workshop on "Indigenous Peoples and Industrial Corporations", which will be held in Salekhard, Russian Federation, from 1 to 4 July 2007. The meeting will be hosted by the Administration of the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug of the Russian Federation, the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East (RAIPON), in cooperation with the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation. It is co-organized by the hosts and SPFII.

The workshop will explore the interface between indigenous peoples, states and the private sector, looking at the mechanisms, policies, norms and laws needed to protect and respect the rights of indigenous peoples, while guaranteeing the rights of states to develop natural resources within their borders and at the

same time promoting a favorable environment for a vibrant private sector. In this regard, the workshop will serve as a forum for sharing experiences and good practices and to identify challenges. Based on these discussions, the workshop will identify possible steps towards improving and increasing positive and mutually beneficial relationships between the private sector and indigenous peoples.

INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

Official visit of UNPFII Members to UNFPA, 29 May 2007, UNFPA, New York.



Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Ms. Merike Kokajev, Ms. Liliane Muzangi Mbela, Mr. Eduardo Aguiar de Almeida, members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues officially visited the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Mrs. Purnima Mane, Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA welcomed to UNPFII members and some 30 UNFPA's staff members. Ms. Marcela Suazo, Director of the Latin American and the Caribbean Region chaired the first panel discussion, Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson of the Forum, introduced the Forum, explained its mandate, objectives, areas of work and provided a summary of the recommendations of the 6th session. Subsequently, three other members talked about the situation of indigenous peoples in their respective regions: Ms. Merike Kokajev, Ms. Liliane Muzangi Mbela, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, and Mr. Eduardo Aguiar de Almeida talked about about the situation of indigenous peoples in Russia, Africa; Asia and Latin America respectively.

Mr. Rogelio Fernández-Castilla chaired the next session. He highlighted the importance of census for indigenous peoples. He gave an example of literacy programmes led by UNFPA in Peru. During this session, the Culture Technical Advisor of UNFPA gave a presentation of the culturally sensitive approach, the Latin America and the Asia Pacific Divisions reviewed their current work on indigenous issues and there was a discussion on the way forward.

Mr. Sultan Aziz, Director of the Asia Pacific Division highlighted some of the concerns as regards indigenous peoples in the region. He stressed miscommunication problems in some countries based on longstanding distrust between the governments and indigenous communities.

At the end, Ms. Sonia Heckadon, Programme Specialist of the Latin America Division, presented the main activities and strategies of the Division.

The main purpose of the visit was:

- To mainstream the mandate, objectives, areas of work of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and Forum's recommendations addressed to UNFPA.
- Learn about UNFPA's Geographical Divisions current work with Indigenous Peoples applying a culturally sensitive approach to its development efforts.
- Explore ways of better cooperation between UNFPA and UNPFII.

Members of the Forum proposed the following recommendations to UNFPA

- Publish experiences of UNFPA LAC region in English, including the participatory approaches;
- Conduct a study describing what are the obstacles for indigenous peoples on health systems, including high turnover of health providers;
- UNFPA should assume leadership on culturally sensitive approach;
- UNFPA should work to institutionalize inter-cultural approaches to health in the curriculums of doctors, nurses, and midwives;
- To build alliances with Ombudsman offices;
- Invite the UNPFII Chairperson to address UNFPA Governing Council.

UNDG TASK TEAM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES / IASG

UNDG Task Team on Indigenous Issues meeting, 13 June 2007, UNHQ, New York

The United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Task Team on Indigenous Issues met on 13 June in order to continue its work to develop a set of Guidelines on Indigenous Issues for UN Country Teams. Several agencies provided inputs for a first draft of the Guidelines, as well as comments. The Guidelines are scheduled to be adopted by the Task Team in the Fall of 2007 and formally launched by the UNDG, along with an action plan for their implementation at the end of the year.

INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ISSUES

SPFII participation at the planning meeting convened by UNIFEM to organize a parallel event on the occasion of the X Session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, 4 May 2007, UNIFEM, New York.

UNIFEM convened a planning meeting to organize a parallel event entitled "Political participation of Indigenous and Afro-descendent women" to be held on 8 August 2007 on the occasion of the X Session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (6to 9 August 2007, Quito, Ecuador).

The Regional Conference will be organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (SPFII).

At the meeting it was decided that Ms. Nina Pacari Vega, member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will moderate the panel discussion on "Political participation of Indigenous and Afro descendant Women".

The Regional Conference is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which is convened on a regular basis to identify women's needs at the regional and subregional levels, present recommendations, undertake periodic assessments of the activities carried out in fulfillment of regional and international plans and agreements on the subject, and serve as a forum for

debates on relevant issues.

To find full information on the session, please visit <http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/mujer/noticias/paginas/2/28422/P28422.xml&xsl=/mujer/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/mujer/tpl/top-bottom.xsl>

Launching of the publication "Indigenous Women and the United Nations System - good practices and lesson learned" and the "Briefing notes on Indigenous Peoples and Gender", 26 May 2007, UNHQ



The Task Force on Indigenous Women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANGWE) was established in 2004, is composed of 17 UN entities and chaired by SPFII. In 2005-2006, the Task Force collected 18 case studies submitted by SCBD, FAO, IFAD, ILO, UNFPA, UNIFEM and UNDP about

their work with indigenous women in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The publication entitled "*Indigenous Women and the United Nations System*" was launched during the Sixth Session of the Forum. Speakers included: Rachel Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women; Ms. Sonia Heckadon, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Ms. Chandra Roy, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Following the Forum's call for wide dissemination of good practices, the collection will be disseminated widely so that it may serve as a practical tool for future work of the UN system and other organizations engaging with indigenous peoples. Language versions will be available soon.

To download the publication (English version only), please visit:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/publications/Indigenous/indwomen07.htm>

At the special event also public information material called "*Briefing Notes on Indigenous Peoples*" was launched, they are on Gender and Indigenous Peoples; Gender and Indigenous Peoples' Economic and Social Development; Gender and Indigenous Peoples' Education; Gender and Indigenous Peoples' Culture; Gender and Indigenous Peoples' Environment; and, Gender and Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights. The material was prepared by OSAGI and SPFII.

The briefing notes (only English) can be downloaded at <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/publications.html>

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SIXTH SESSION:

The sixth session of the Permanent Forum was held from 14 to 25 May 2007 at United Nations Headquarters, in New York. The special theme of the sixth session was "Territories, lands and national resources". The agenda also placed special emphasis on implementation and included a half-day discussion on Asia, a half-day discussion on urban indigenous peoples and migration and a discussion on data collection and disaggregation.

Participation

A record number of some 2500 pre-registered for this

session from Indigenous Peoples' Organizations, NGOs and academia. This represents the highest number ever in indigenous-related meetings at the UN.

This year's meeting attracted some 1500 indigenous peoples' representatives, NGOs and academia, senior and other representatives of around 70 Member States and some 35 UN system entities and other inter-governmental organizations. Some 30 indigenous parliamentarians from Bolivia, Greenland, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Venezuela, and large government delegations attended the session.

High-level presences at the opening of the Sixth Session included the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Sheika Haya Rashed Al Khalifa; the President of ECOSOC, Ambassador Dalius Cekuolis and the President of the Human Rights Council, Ambassador Luis de Alba. Also High level participation included, the Vice Minister of Community Affairs of Bolivia, the Executive Secretary of Consejo de Desarrollo de los Pueblos y Nacionalidades Indígenas (CODENPE) of Ecuador.

Also, attending this year was Rebang Dewan, a 12 years old Chakma youth from the Chittagong Hills of Bangladesh. He won the international logo competition to design the visual identifier of the UNPFII.

Special Events

More than 60 special events took place during the session in the UN and additional ones took place in the periphery. They were organized by Member States, UN entities, other intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, the Secretariat and others.

Substantive output of the session

- On the session's main theme of *lands, territories and natural resources*, the Forum urged States to take measures to halt land alienation in indigenous territories, through for example a moratorium on the sale and registration of land - including the granting of land and other concessions - in areas occupied by indigenous peoples.
- The Forum reaffirmed indigenous peoples' central role in decision-making concerning their lands and resources, referring to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as adopted by the Human Rights Council on 29 June 2006, which states that land and resources-related projects "shall not be implemented without the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples."
- The Forum made a number of recommendations regarding economic and social development, health, education, culture, environment and human rights, and discussed ways for implementing recommendations within the framework of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- Throughout the session, participants and Forum members reiterated their strong recommendation to Member States to adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2006 - in its entirety and without amendments - during the current session of the General Assembly.

Indigenous Peoples in Asia, Urban Indigenous and Migration

- Attention was drawn to the situation of Asia – home to two-thirds of the world's indigenous peoples and more than 2000 civilizations and languages. To the continuing challenges facing indigenous peoples in the region, including non-recognition of their cultural identity, exclusion and marginalization, displacement from their traditional territories and dispossession of lands and resources as a result of logging activity, large-scale plantations, mega hydro-electric dams, extractive industries and also by the designation of protected areas.
- In response to another priority discussion on the issue of urban indigenous and migration, Forum members urged States to work with indigenous peoples to provide employment and economic development opportunities within their own territories and to provide centers in urban areas to meet the medical, legal and other needs of indigenous peoples.

Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

- The Forum reiterated the goals and the objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.
- The Permanent Forum urged all States engaged in bilateral development collaboration with other States with indigenous peoples to develop culturally sensitive policies, strategies, programmes and projects, in collaboration with indigenous peoples as part of their overall policies for development collaboration.
- The Forum called upon states who have created special national committees on the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to cooperate more effectively with the Permanent Forum.

Special consultations held during the session outside plenary meetings

- 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 and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Ms Yakin Erturk.
- Meeting of the Forum with indigenous parliamentarians.
- Meeting of the Forum with the CANZ (Canada, Australia and New Zealand) group of States.

Future work

- In response to a strong plea from indigenous participants at the two-week meeting, members of the Forum announced that the **2008 session special theme will be "Climate Change, Bio-cultural Diversity and Livelihoods: The Stewardship role of Indigenous Peoples and new Challenges"**. This will include research into mitigation measures being taken and how these are impacting on indigenous peoples.
- There will also be a special focus on the Pacific region.
- Next year's session will also devote discussion to the issue of **Indigenous languages**, given that 2008 has been declared the International Year of Languages by the General Assembly and more than 4000 of the

world's remaining 6000 languages are spoken by indigenous peoples, many of which are under threat of extinction.

NEWS

Appointment of Indigenous members and Election of Government members for the period 2008-2010 Membership of UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 25 April 2007, UNHQ, New York.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FILLED VACANCIES ON SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(EXCERPTS of UN Press release: ECOSOC/6264 – 25 April 2007)

As set out in Council resolution 2000/22 and decision 2001/316, eight members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues would be appointed by the President of the Council and eight members elected by the Council. The term of office for all 16 members is three years, beginning on 1 January 2008.

In a letter dated 17 April to the members of the Council (document A/2007/48), Council President Dalius Cekuolis (Lithuania), had informed the Council that he had appointed Hassan Id Balkassm (Morocco), Margaret Lokawua (Uganda), Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines), Lars-Anders Baer (Sweden), Elisa Canqui Mollo (Bolivia), Pavel Sulyandziga (Russian Federation), Tonya Gonnella Frichner (United States) and Michael Dodson (Australia) to the Forum.

According to the letter, the candidates had been selected from the seven socio-cultural regions used by the Permanent Forum, namely: Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean; the Arctic; Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific. It was understood that the eighth member was nominated from one of the three regions with the largest indigenous populations.

The Council then elected by acclamation Xiaomei Qin (China), Paimaneh Hasteh (Iran), Carlos Mamani Condori (Bolivia), Bartolomé Clavero Salvador (Spain) and Carsten Smith (Norway) from the groups of Asian States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and Other States, as the number of nominated candidates was equal to the number of vacancies for those groups.

As there were three candidates from African States for two seats, and two candidates from Eastern European States for one seat, the Council proceeded with a secret ballot election.

Results for African States

Number of ballots: 53 Majority required: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Simeon Adewale Adekanye (Nigeria) 31

Ali Daouda (Niger) 28

Liliane Muzangi Mbella (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 46

Having obtained the required majority and largest number of votes, Liliane Muzangi Mbella (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and Simeon Adewale Adekanye (Nigeria) were elected to the Permanent Forum.

Results for Eastern European States

Number of ballots: 53 Majority required: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Merike Kokajev (Estonia) 26

A. A. Nikiforov (Russian Federation) 27

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, A. A. Nikiforov (Russian Federation) was elected to the Permanent Forum.

Information on the distribution of seats and biographical data on the candidates nominated by Governments was contained in E/2007/9/Addenda 2, 8, 9 and 10.

To read the complete press release UN Press release: ECOSOC/6264 – 25 April 2007, please visit <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/ecosoc6264.doc.htm>

DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Round table with African experts on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 3 May 2007, UNHQ

The Roundtable was organized by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The African experts that participated were: Mr. Hassan Id Balkassam, member of the UNPFII (Morocco); Adele Wildschut (South Africa), Ms. Naomi Kapuri (Kenya), Mr. Joseph Ole Simel (Kenya) and Dr. Albert Barume (Democratic Republic of Congo), Hon. Libérate Nicayenzi (Burundi), Professor Shadrack Gutto (Kenya/South Africa), Director, Centre for African Renaissance Studies, University of South Africa. The Roundtable was chaired by Mr. Andrew Chigovera, the former Chairman of the African Commission's Working Group on Indigenous Populations and Communities.

The main objective of the roundtable was to encourage and facilitate a constructive dialogue between African States and other stakeholders on the key issues of concern expressed by the African group of States in relation to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Roundtable was a well attended event with presentations and discussions centred around the UN Declaration's consistency with all African constitutions, the African Charter, and African states' practice, which guarantee equal enjoyment of all rights by all citizens, including disadvantaged groups. The Roundtable provided an opportunity for on-going dialogue between African experts and the African group of countries regarding the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which was passed in the Human Rights Council in June 2006.

Developments on the UN Declaration: Appointment of H.E. Hilario G. Davide, Jr., to facilitate consultations on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 6 June 2007

The General Assembly, by resolution 61/178 of 20 December 2006, decided to defer consideration of and action on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to allow time for further consultations and conclude its consideration of the Declaration, before the end of its 61st session.

During the sixth session of the UN Permanent Forum session, some members of the Forum and the Indigenous Caucus met with the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, and she informed them that for the remaining months before the end of the current

General Assembly session, she will appoint a facilitator, to help bring the government positions together. On 6 June 2007, the President of the General Assembly announced that His Excellency Hilario G. Davide, Jr., the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations will undertake on her behalf, further consultations on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

RELEASE OF UNPFII INFORMATION MATERIALS

New brochure about the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:



It contains general information about the mandate, history of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations, among other important information. It is available in English and Spanish. It will be available in other languages by the end of the year.

Handbook for participants to attend the UNPFII: It is a useful guide for participants who wish to attend the session. It contains practical information about the Permanent Forum and activities during the session, accreditation, caucus, speakers list, writing statements, logistical information, among others. It is available in English, French, Spanish and Russian.



Good Practices on Indigenous Peoples' Development:

This compilation is a result of detailed case studies commissioned by SPFII in cooperation with Tebtebba Foundation. The premise underlying the case studies of IFAD's field work in Latin America and Asia, was that indigenous peoples were project beneficiaries and the project reviewers and evaluators.

Desk Reviews of select MDG Reports as per Indigenous Issues: No. 2, 2007, This desk review analyses to what extent indigenous peoples are included, involved with or promoted within the context of the Millennium Development Goals Reports (MDGRs), produced by states where indigenous peoples live.

Integration of Indigenous Peoples' Perspectives in Country Development Processes: Review of selected Common Country Assessment (CCAs) and UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) in various countries No. 2, 2007: This review of selected CCAs and UNDAFs is part of the efforts to promote the implementation of the Forum's recommendations, with a view to identifying challenges faced by indigenous peoples at country level and strengthening the UN system through better consideration of indigenous issues in UN analytical and programmatic instruments at country level in particular.

Desk Review of Select Resident Coordinator Reports: 2001-2003: This analysis explores the link between Common Country Assessment/UN Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) and RC reports and to what extent indigenous issues covered in the first will have reverberations in the second. This review is part of the efforts of the Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to inform the Forum, indigenous peoples, states

and the UN system, including the UN Development Group, and to ascertain progress made towards the integration of indigenous peoples' issues in the United Nations development work at the field level.

All the listed information materials are available at the following website

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/publications.html>

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- Appointment of Indigenous members and Election of Government members for the period 2008-2010 Membership of UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, UNHQ, New York
- SPFI capacity-building seminar for delegation of Member States, 17 April 2007, UNHQ, New York
- SPFI visit and seminar on Indigenous issues at the European Investment Bank, 26 April 2007, Luxembourg.

MAY

- SPFI participation at the UNDG Working Group on Programming Policies to report recent IASG developments, 2 May 2007, UNHQ, New York. (JF)
- Round table with African experts on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 3 May 2007, UNHQ
- Planning meeting with UNIFEM and INSTRAW regarding the X Regional Conference on Women, 4 May 2007, UNIFEM, New York.
- Permanent Forum Bureau Members assess the proposals for the Trust Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 10-11 May 2007, UNHQ
- Sixth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 14 – 25 May 2007, UNHQ, New York.
- Official visit of UNPFII members to UNFPA, 29 May 2007, UNFPA, New York.
- Release of UNPFII information materials: publications and documents on the website:

- New brochure about the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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- Integration of Indigenous Peoples' Perspective in Country Development Processes: Review of selected Common Country Assessment (CCAs) and UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) in various countries No. 2, 2007 Desk Review of Select Resident Coordinator Reports: 2001-2003
- Participation of Ms. Tauli-Corpuz in Board of IFAD's new Grants Facility for Indigenous Peoples, Rome, Italy

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- Appointment of H.E. Hilario G. Davide, Jr., to facilitate consultations on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 6 June 2007.
- UNDG Task Team on Indigenous Issues meeting, 13 June 2007, UNHQ, New York (JF/ES)
- Preparations of the meeting of the Forum in Salekhard, Russian Federation, regarding the private sector and indigenous peoples.

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All previous issues of *MESSAGE STIK* are available to download here:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/newsletter.html>

