

# Questionnaire to UN system

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## Questionnaire

The theme of the Permanent Forum's session in 2018 will be:  
**“Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”**

**Please provide information on the following:**

### **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:<sup>1</sup>

- i.* Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.
- ii.* What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency's implementation of the Forum's recommendations?
- iii.* What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

- **It is advisable that members of the Permanent Forum and/or other relevant entities share in a periodic manner the name of experts for potential advisory services, as well as materials on lessons-learned regarding the implementation of the right to consultation with the inter-agency framework, which includes DPA.**

### **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 adopted in November 2015, and 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 2018 session.<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

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

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

Please provide information on actions taken or planned by your agency, fund, programme, entity on the following:

- i.* Measures taken or planned to support national partners in reform and implementation of legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including any joint programming initiatives. Please also include information related to include indigenous women in your responses.
- ii.* Support provided to Member States to mainstream the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in national development plans and in the UN Development Assistance Frameworks and Common Country Assessments (CCA/UNDAFs).
- iii.* Promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue including under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.

- **DPA engaged with the UN Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples (IASG) and with the UN intergovernmental bodies working on indigenous peoples' rights throughout 2017. DPA participated in the IASG annual global meeting, held in Quito, Ecuador, from 28 to 30 June. The meeting enhanced DPA's partnerships with the UN system on conflict prevention. By raising awareness about the UN Declaration and by promoting the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes, DPA is supporting the IASG in strengthening its partnership with Member States, indigenous peoples' organizations and other partners, including the private sector, to accelerate progress in the implementation of the UN Declaration.**
- **From 15 to 20 October 2017, DPA participated in and supported UN Country Team efforts in Chile in its guarantor and observer role in the last phase of a Government-led consultation process with indigenous peoples on the inclusion of constitutional recognition and political participation in the draft law for Constitutional reform.**
- **In September 2017, the UN, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator (Pacific) and in partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), hosted a consultation on the Solomon Islands peace process involving 40 Solomon Islands youth. One of the challenges and issues identified by the youth group was resolved land disputes, including unequal sharing of resources, irresponsible exploitation of resources including logging, mining and fishing, and the impact of climate change. This workshop reinforced the need to continue a focus on land-related disputes. The youth also identified the lack of inclusivity and participation as an area of much-needed reform, mentioning low level of involvement of churches, youth and women in decision-making and peacebuilding and gender equality. It would be important for the UN to continue addressing these issues with a conflict prevention lens as the ethnic conflict – also known as “the tensions” of the 1990s – were a result of disputes between the indigenous Guadalcanal population and migrant Malaita settlers over land ownership.**

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### **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 policy and programming to implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
- ii.* Has your agency/organization/entity supported the participation of indigenous peoples in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including at the national level? Please also include information on indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth in your responses.
- iii.* Please provide information on any reports or other documents in implementing the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples. Also include information on any measures taken or planned for 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).

### **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.
- ii.* Please provide information on any training materials prepared or planned related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.
- iii.* Please provide information on current resources and funds allocated to effectively implement the UN Declaration. Please also provide information on any joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the implementation of the UN Declaration.

### **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.

- **DPA, through UNSMIL, leads Libya's constitution-making process. UNSMIL's role includes engaging with all constituencies, including minorities and indigenous peoples to help ensure that their unique rights are respected and their concerns are addressed in**

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Libya's eventual constitution. UNSMIL therefore took special interest in engaging with the Amazigh population in Libya, given their rejection to formally engage in the constitution-making process. Despite the fact that two seats were allocated to the Amazigh in the Constitution Drafting Assembly (CDA), in February of 2014, the Amazigh constituency boycotted the CDA elections on the basis that two seats failed to reflect their proportion of the population. During the various stages of the CDA's drafting and voting processes, UNSMIL worked to draw in Amazigh participation in the constitution-making process, and ensure that the Amazigh concerns and interests were sufficiently addressed and reflected.

- In the Philippines, the DPA-UNDP Senior Advisor on Peacebuilding has supported two track-two initiatives—the Friends of Peace group led by the Archbishop of Cotabato, and the “insider mediators group” comprised of the senior advisors to the major stakeholders to the peace process as well as independent intermediaries—to create wider convergence, especially in the Congress, around issues relating to Moro autonomy. This has involved extensive work with different Moro groups from Mindanao as well as other stakeholders. Further, during the siege of Marawi from May to October 2018, the “insider mediators’ group” played an active role in obtaining the release of trapped civilians and hostages.
- DPA, through its Liaison Office in Nepal, has been engaging with minority and indigenous groups in Nepal to support an inclusive approach in implementing the 2015 Constitution, including through quiet diplomacy and advocacy. The DPA Liaison Office in Nepal continues to encourage all political parties to address grievances of minority and indigenous groups via constitutional mechanisms and continued dialogue.
- In the Solomon Islands, the UN has carried out a perceptions survey, which concluded that land disputes were categorized as the second highest reason for occurrence of disputes. Through a Peacebuilding Fund project, DPA has been working closely with UNDP, PBSO, and the Government on addressing land-related disputes through workshops facilitating inclusive dialogue. The National Dialogue Communiqué has defined ‘use and management of land and natural resources and dispute resolution’ as one of the top priorities for sustaining peace. In this regard, the PBF project will continue to prioritize this area for long-term stability and prevention of relapse into conflict by focusing on resolving land disputes, which would also advance efforts in bridging gaps in service delivery and promoting economic activities. Further, DPA will continue to work closely with relevant authorities and experts in assessing conflict triggers and mapping out lessons learned to mediate and find resolutions that could reduce risks of land disputes. All efforts to undertake land reform to address land disputes and development will need to include women and youth in the decision-making process.
- The Office of the Resident Coordinator in Bolivia is developing a specialization course on prevention, analysis and management of social and environmental conflicts related to the use of strategic natural resources for public officials of government ministries. DPA supported the Office of the Resident Coordinator through the deployment of two national consultants in the last quarter of 2017 to develop the course, coordinate its implementation and establish a roster of trained national experts. The project was in response to a request by the School of Public Management (Escuela de Gestión Pública

Plurinacional) of the Ministry of Education to the Office of the Resident Coordinator.

- On 16 and 17 October 2017, DPA and UNDP Guatemala co-organized the seminar: “South-South Exchange on Lessons Learned: Dialogue institutions and management of socio-environmental conflicts in Latin America”, held in Guatemala City. The goal of the seminar was to strengthen national capacities for dialogue. Participants included Government representatives, indigenous representatives, members of civil society and of UN Country Teams in Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Peru, as well as experts from Colombia and Argentina. Participants presented different institutional mechanisms to promote dialogue and address social conflicts, including mechanisms for prior consultation with indigenous peoples. The activity was framed in the context of the Insider Mediators DPA-UNDP-EU joint programme.
- DPA is in its third year of support to a project in the Moskitia region of Honduras focused on accompanying national, regional and local institutions, as well as civil society, for conflict prevention by means of providing training in conflict prevention for insider mediators from the region. These efforts included the establishment of a network of Moskitia mediators including 22 indigenous leaders and local institutions as well as training on conflict analysis and community mediation for 55 indigenous leaders in July-November.
- DPA’s Decolonization Unit and the Secretariat of UNPFII met on 24 October 2017 (Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen, Chief, the Secretariat of the UNPFII, DESA and her team) to discuss how to cooperate more closely between the two offices in view of the interconnection between decolonization and indigenous issues since the UN Declaration on the Right of Indigenous People stipulates the right of self-determination, while the UNPFII regularly received indigenous people from Non-Self-Governing Territories such as Kanaks from New Caledonia and Chamorros from Guam.

### 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, including at the country level. 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 implementing its mandate in Colombia to reintegrate former FARC-EP combatants and ensure the provision of security guarantees for both the group and communities in conflict-affected zones, the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia has ensured to include the perspective of indigenous and ethnic peoples as these are salient angles of peace implementation. According to a census carried out by Colombia’s National University, 18 per cent of former FARC-EP combatants identified as indigenous and 12 per cent as Afro-Colombian. The Verification Mission in Colombia is recruiting an Ethnic Adviser to be part of the cross-cutting team in support of verification efforts. This adviser will support field teams and provide advice to senior mission leadership on issues related to indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.

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At the national level, the Verification Mission maintains a permanent dialogue with the High-Level Ethnic Commission established under the terms of the peace agreement, which has continued to express its concern over the need to adequately address the inclusion of ethnic and indigenous perspectives as well as their participation in peace implementation. At the subnational level, in at least two regions, the UN Verification Mission has also facilitated dialogue between indigenous authorities and FARC representatives, which has resulted in tailored reintegration processes for former combatants who belong to indigenous communities.

The Verification Mission also facilitated exchanges between the public security forces and indigenous peoples on security and protection matters in indigenous areas. In Cauca department, meetings were held with representatives of traditional authorities and security forces to discuss strategies to address threats against indigenous community leaders.

- In Libya, UNSMIL held a number of meetings including in partnership with international partners with the Amazigh Supreme Council and other Amazigh civil society organizations to discuss the UN-facilitated constitutional draft produced in Salalah, Oman, as well as to address issues of particular concern for the indigenous population that were then reflected to members of the Constitutional Drafting Assembly.
- At UN Headquarters, DPA organized a meeting on “conflict prevention, land rights and indigenous peoples” on 9 August 2017 at which Mr. Albert Kwonkwo Barume, Chair of the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Mr. Broddi Sigurdarson, Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples conducted a discussion on the promotion of prevention and management of conflicts over land and the environmental rights of indigenous peoples. In attendance was also Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild of Canada, an eminent member of the Cree Nation, former Canadian Member of Parliament and former Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on indigenous peoples. The meeting was well attended by staff from DPA, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, OHCHR, UNDP and the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide.