

### 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 sixteenth session of 2017 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/news/2017/06/new-16th-session-report-unpfii/>

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 two separate reports for the April 2018 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) Compilation of information received from the UN system and other entities on progress in implementation of PFII recommendations; and (b) Implementation of the System Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DSPD website on Indigenous Peoples at:

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

*If you have any objections for your response to be made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.*

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **29 December 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](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) and [sigurdarson@un.org](mailto:sigurdarson@un.org)

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The seventeenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **16 to 27 April 2018**.

### **Provisional Agenda**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
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 “Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”.
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.
11. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:
  - (a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies and 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 eighteenth session.
14. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its seventeenth session.

## UN Department of Public Information

### 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.

Recommendation of the Permanent Forum, in its report on the 16<sup>th</sup> session:

*72. The Permanent Forum welcomes the first indigenous media zone, established at the sixteenth session of the Forum, and encourages the continuation of this initiative at future sessions, in cooperation with indigenous community media, and, where possible, encourages United Nations entities to continue collaboration with indigenous community media at the regional and national levels.*

Measures taken or planned:

The first-ever indigenous media zone at UN Headquarters, held during the 16th session of the Forum, attracted dozens of indigenous media representatives and offered a space for amplifying indigenous voices. Co-hosted by DPI and DESA from 24 to 28 April 2017, the indigenous media zone provided a much-needed work and meeting space for indigenous media producers and featured live interviews, discussions and press conferences with human rights defenders and indigenous experts.

Participants in the media zone included indigenous radio and TV producers from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, Sweden and the United States. Live interviews and discussions took place with indigenous experts from countries such as Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Canada, Ecuador, Finland, Mali, Peru, Russia, Tanzania and Uruguay, on topics ranging from the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to land rights and natural resources, violence against women, the Sustainable Development Goals and issues affecting indigenous youth.

Five discussions—one per day—were streamed live on UN DESA's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pg/joinundesa/videos>) and reached up to 200,000 viewers each.

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

About 20 other interviews and discussions were streamed on Facebook by Notimia, a news agency of Indigenous and Afro-descendant women, who partnered with DESA and DPI to organize the programme for the Indigenous Media Zone: [https://www.facebook.com/pg/notimia/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/notimia/videos/?ref=page_internal).

DPI also organized an NGO briefing on “Indigenous Voices, Indigenous Rights: The Role of Community Media” on 27 April 2017, featuring indigenous media representatives from Guatemala, Nepal and South Africa.

For DPI, the 2017 Indigenous Media Zone and related activities provided strong momentum for a promising collaboration with indigenous media organizations and constituted an important step toward strengthening the Department’s outreach to indigenous communities and amplifying indigenous voices.

In 2018, DPI plans to work with DESA and indigenous media representatives again to offer an Indigenous Media Zone at UN Headquarters during the first week of the Permanent Forum session in April.

On the national and regional levels, DPI works through its UN information centres (UNICs) to reach and collaborate with indigenous media representatives, such as for example UNIC Bogota’s collaboration with the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia and its Dachi Bedea Radio on International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples in August 2017, during a year that also marked the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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

DPI has a focal point on indigenous issues, working closely with the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on media outreach and public information at UN Headquarters and in the field. DPI is also the lead agency in the inter-agency communications working group on indigenous rights.

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

The need for translations into indigenous languages proved to be a challenge when trying to reach out to indigenous community media.

### **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

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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.

DPI, as the lead entity for implementation of Element 1 of the SWAP, continued to chair a working group of communications professionals from interested UN system partners (including DESA, DPI, FAO, IFAD, OHCHR, PAHO/WHO, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Global Compact and UN Women) to raise awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples. The inter-agency working group developed and implemented a communications strategy on the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including a set of key messages and a range of promotional products for various platforms in multiple languages, including digital cards, videos, banners and pins.

DPI provided broad multimedia, multilingual coverage of the 16th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (24 April-5 May), as well as the high-level event on the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 April. News and feature products, including video, audio, print and photo, were distributed by all the Department's platforms, including the United Nations flagship social media accounts, in the six official languages as well as Kiswahili and Portuguese. DPI also organized four press conferences as well as the five-day Indigenous Media Zone at UN Headquarters.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the Declaration and elevate the profile of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (9 August) on social media, DPI partnered with Twitter to create and promote a branded emoji that went live from 8 August to 15 September, covering both the International Day and the anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration (13 September): <http://bit.ly/2D8SewC>. The emoji consisted of a miniature version of the UN visual identity for indigenous issues – a square made out of lines in different colours – that appeared whenever the hashtags #WeAreIndigenous and #IndigenousDay were used in different languages. In addition, a Twitter “Moment” was used to promote the Twitter posts: <http://bit.ly/2BeoKq>. DPI also coordinated and promoted a Twitter Q&A with indigenous experts on 13 September, with the general public invited to tweet any question they had: <http://bit.ly/2Beo3qm>.

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<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.

For the International Day, DPI also organized a press conference on “Realizing the rights of indigenous peoples – a decade in review”, featuring the Chair of the Permanent Forum along with indigenous experts from Canada and Ecuador. It also issued a press release in English and Spanish for media and NGO partners, and translated and promoted joint statements by the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) and by the three UN mechanisms on indigenous peoples. In addition, the Department provided print and audio coverage across its multilingual, multimedia news and social media platforms.

The website for the International Day ([www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday](http://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday)) is maintained by the Department. It is regularly updated in the six official UN languages, utilizing the new UN web design, and is fully accessible and mobile-compatible.

Among the multimedia material produced during the year was a “Vox Populi” piece by UN News, featuring short interviews with indigenous experts attending the Forum session (<http://www.un.org/apps/news/html/UNPFII-16.asp>), a UN Photo Story for the International Day (<http://bit.ly/2vyiTsw>), as well as two videos by DPI’s Video section in the six official languages and Kiswahili and Portuguese: “Together We Achieve” (<http://bit.ly/2wsPCq4>) in April, and “Japan’s Indigenous People: Protecting an Identity” (<http://bit.ly/2vxf7IZ>), which was screened at the UN Headquarters event on the International Day in August.

The Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, updated a research guide on indigenous peoples (<http://research.un.org/en/indigenous>), and the UN intranet, iSeek, published stories in English and French on the Indigenous Media Zone in April, and on the International Day in August.

Around the world, UNICs organized events and activities to raise awareness for indigenous peoples on the occasion of the International Day: UNIC Bogota, in collaboration with the National Indigenous Organization, promoted indigenous voices through photos and a mini documentary on the pride of being indigenous that aired in cinemas and TV stations across the country. UNIC Brazzaville organized a discussion and exhibition of handmade products by indigenous communities, while UNIC Canberra organized a capacity-building programme for indigenous leaders, on the theme, "Leaving No One Behind-Australia Indigenous Peoples and the SDGs."

### **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:

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- 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.

**UNICs continue to reach out to the media and educational institutions; engage in partnerships with governments, local civil society organizations and the private sector; and maintain libraries and electronic information resources on indigenous issues.**

### **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?

**DPI promotes indigenous peoples' issues as well as the Sustainable Development Goals, and seeks to highlight the linkages between the two. Throughout the year, promotion of indigenous peoples' rights was put in the context of the 2030 Agenda. For example, during the Commission on the Status of Women, in March 2017, DPI organized a press conference featuring the Chief of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum along with indigenous experts from Cameroon and Peru, and issued a press release on empowering indigenous women and girls in the context of the 2030 Agenda, along with social media content in multiple languages. DPI will continue to focus on these issues in its future communications activities.**

- 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

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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.

**With regular stories on iSeek on indigenous peoples, in English and French, DPI raises awareness of indigenous issues among staff members, including those away from UN Headquarters.**

**A research guide by DPI's Dag Hammarskjöld Library assists delegates, staff and academia in learning about indigenous peoples (<http://research.un.org/en/indigenous>).**

**UNICs regularly issue materials, such as print and online publications, videos and key messages to publicize relevant issues at the national and regional level.**

#### **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.