

### 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-unpfi/>

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.

## 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.

There is no specific recommendation for the Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect.

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

(See answer to A.i.)

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

(See answer to A.i.)

### 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

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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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materials that feature or focus on the UN Declaration and on indigenous peoples. Please also provide links to the relevant websites and other sources.

The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect refers to the Declaration in its periodic contributions to the work of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention. In 2017, this has included at the Annual Network Focal Point meeting, which took place on 16-17 October in New York, with the participation of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues. Beyond advocacy, the Office of the Special Advisers has distributed a questionnaire to members of this Network with the aim of identifying challenges in the protection of vulnerable indigenous communities in the region. Based on this input (to be received in the first quarter of 2018), the Office will explore linkages between those challenges and the implementation of the UN Declaration, and will encourage Network focal points to seek UNCT support in the design and implementation of response policies.

### **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.

In its work with national focal points of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, the Office of the Special Advisers contributes to workshops aimed at: (a) identifying challenges for the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity in the specific countries; (b) identifying policy options to address them; and (c) exploring institutional reforms or arrangements that could facilitate atrocity prevention assessment and response. In this work, the Office has contributed to discussions on possible establishment of national mechanisms for genocide and atrocity prevention in a number of countries. In these discussions, reference to the vulnerability of indigenous populations is central. Specifically, in 2017 the Office has provided general presentations on key policy options and elements of national atrocity prevention mechanism to 17 States in the Americas. The Office has also had more targeted discussions on establishment of a national mechanism with Guatemala.

- 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).

(See answer B.2.i. above)

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- iii.* Promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue including under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.

(Not relevant for our Office)

### **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?

(Not relevant for our Office)

- 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.

(Not relevant for our Office)

- 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).

(Not relevant for our Office)

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

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

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The Office of the Special Advisers analyses risk factors for atrocity crimes in its analysis of country situations. The specific factors and indicators are listed and described in our Office's Framework for Analysis for Atrocity Crimes. We have a particular focus on the vulnerability of indigenous populations in the region of the Americas and we use this tool as guidance to assess risk of atrocity crimes against them.

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

The Office has prepared short summaries of the content of the Declaration and on the process that led to its adoption for oral presentations in meetings of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention.

- 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.

(No specific allocation to implementation of the Declaration, but use of budgetary resources for activities listed above).

### **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.

The Office includes representatives of indigenous populations in its list of interlocutors when assessing the risk of atrocity crimes, particularly in the region of the Americas. This is specially the case in field visits by the Office to States where these communities are assessed to be specially vulnerable. Also, as mentioned above, the Office of the Special Advisers works with national focal points of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention in order to support their capacity to (a) identify challenges for the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity in the specific countries; (b) identify policy options to address them; and (c) explore institutional reforms or arrangements that could facilitate atrocity prevention assessment and response. This has included supporting initiatives aimed at the possible establishment of national mechanisms for genocide and atrocity prevention in a number of countries, including Argentina, Paraguay and Guatemala. Also, Mexico has expanded the agenda of its Interministerial Committee on International Humanitarian Law to address matters related to the prevention of atrocity crimes.

### **6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes**

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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.

(Not relevant for our Office)