

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 and 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:¹

- i.* Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.
PAHO/WHO has been working towards the implementation of the Health Plan for Indigenous Youth in Latin America. In this regard, a workshop was conducted in collaboration with CEPAL this year with the participation of indigenous youth in the Region. Moreover, PAHO is now defining with indigenous youth next activities to be conducted for the implementation of the Plan. PAHO is also disseminating the Health Plan for Indigenous Youth to the Ministries of health through its country offices.
- ii.* What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency's implementation of the Forum's recommendations?
The very recently approved Policy on Ethnicity and Health by the Ministries of Health in the Region is definitely an enabling factor to implement the Forum's recommendations on indigenous health.
- iii.* What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

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.² 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

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

² See Report of the 15th 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 Declaration is available on the Cultural Diversity and Health topic page. It is promoted via regional PAHO/WHO social media accounts on relevant advocacy days recognized by PAHO/WHO. Key messages about indigenous health, focusing on inequalities, were developed and shared with the UNSWAP communications secretariat.

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.

PAHO/WHO has worked towards the approval of a Policy on Ethnicity and Health which addresses not only the need to contemplate the different determinants that have an impact in the health of indigenous peoples in the Region but also the need to take into account intercultural approaches to health. This policy, approved by the Ministries of Health in the Region, is a guide for the Americas which incorporates the principles of the UN Declaration and other relevant key instruments to indigenous peoples.

- 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.

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?

As earlier mentioned, PAHO/WHO has developed a Policy on Ethnicity and health which is in line with the 2030 Agenda. This document has as its frame of reference the global commitment to sustainable development made in the 2030 Agenda, in order to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest behind first. Moreover PAHO's Strategic Plan includes Ethnicity as one of the four cross-cutting themes for the Organization.

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- 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.

All programs and projects at PAHO that involve indigenous health take into account a life course approach as well as specific conditions in which Indigenous peoples live.

- 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).

The Policy on Ethnicity and Health builds upon the global commitment to sustainable development made in the 2030 Agenda, in order to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest behind first. It is particularly relevant to highlight the regional commitments reflected in the PAHO's Strategy for Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage, and the Plan of Action on Health in All Policies. These instruments are in line with Goal 3, ensuring healthy lives for all at all ages, makes universal health coverage a central issue and an essential dimension in achieving this goal, based on the principles of equity, equality, and non-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.

The promotion and protection of the health of indigenous peoples is central to PAHO's mandate. As mentioned above, PAHO/WHO Strategic Plan integrates ethnicity as one of the four cross cutting themes of the Organization. Moreover, a series of resolutions have been approved to protect and implement the right to health of indigenous peoples:

In September 1993, PAHO's 37th Directing Council passed Resolution CD37.R5, which recognized the deficits in both living conditions and health among the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

Said resolution aimed to implement the Health of the Indigenous Peoples Initiative of the Americas (called SAPLA, taken from its acronym in Spanish), urging governments to formulate policies and strategies geared towards specific indigenous populations, so as to break through the lack of information and ensure their greater access to high-quality health services and care—thus contributing to improved levels of equity.

In 1997, PAHO's 40th Directing Council passed Resolution CD40.R6, which recognized the ever-increasing inequity in the health status and access to basic health services of the indigenous peoples of the Americas. It took into account the economic, geographical, and cultural obstacles that, in the majority of the countries of the Region, block efficient, effective delivery of public health services and health care to people in isolated rural areas, as well as in marginalized urban areas. It urged Member States to persist in their efforts to detect, monitor, and eliminate

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inequities in health status and in access to basic health services among the most disadvantaged groups—especially indigenous populations.

In 2006, PAHO's 47th Directing Council passed Resolution CD47.R18, Health of the Indigenous Peoples in the Americas. It recognized the progress made by the SAPLA initiative, while acknowledging the existence of inequities in access to health services that affect between 40 and 50 million individuals from indigenous populations living in the Region of the Americas. It considered the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) impossible to reach without meeting the specific health needs of such excluded groups as indigenous populations.

The most remarkable achievement has been the approval by all Ministries of Health in the Region of the Americas of the First Policy on Ethnicity and health in September 2017 during the Pan American Sanitary Conference.

- 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.

PAHO/WHO has been part of the SWAP Communications groups on the rights of indigenous peoples and has been actively involved providing relevant information related to the health of indigenous peoples in the Region.

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.

PAHO/WHO has virtual courses on cultural diversity and health. An ethnic approach to health can be found at: <http://cursos.campusvirtualsp.org/course/view.php?id=39>

PAHO/WHO has also been promoting national, sub-regional and regional technical meetings to promote intercultural approaches to health. During these technical meetings, PAHO/WHO has prioritized technical cooperation that will help Member States to build the capacity of health systems to address ethnicity in harmony with SDGs and international and regional human rights instruments.

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

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information on any consultative mechanisms, tools and other measures to obtain free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.

PAHO/WHO has been conducting participatory processes for the validation of the Policy on Ethnicity and Health that was approved by the Ministries of Health in September, 2017. Indigenous leaders at country, sub-regional and regional levels were involved in this process through PAHO Country Offices. PAHO has also been promoting important spaces for experience exchange on intercultural health where indigenous leaders from the Region have been actively involved. Moreover, PAHO is working on different initiatives where effective participation of indigenous peoples is crucial, in particular on communicable diseases, sexual and reproductive and mental health. PAHO/WHO, in collaboration with its country offices, also worked with indigenous youth in the development of their Health Plan. Moreover, PAHO/WHO has also been actively involved in the Regional Inter-Agency Group for Indigenous Peoples, only Regional Group that has a Consultative Group of Indigenous Leaders.