

### 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 seventeenth session of 2018 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/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/06/Report-on-ForumEnglish.pdf>

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) Update on the promotion and application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; 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 2018** 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  
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Email: [indigenous\\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) and [sigurdarson@un.org](mailto:sigurdarson@un.org)

## Questionnaire to UN system

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The seventeenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **22 April – 3 May 2019.**

### **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. Discussion on the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages
6. Dialogue with indigenous peoples: collective rights to lands, territories and resources
7. Dialogue with Member States.
8. Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.
9. Discussion on the theme “Traditional knowledge: generation, transmission and protection”.
10. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
11. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
12. 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.
13. Regional dialogues between indigenous peoples and Member States.
14. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
15. Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session.
16. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its eighteenth session.

## Questionnaire

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.

No recommendation was addressed to DGC in the report on the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

### B. System Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

#### Executive summary:

Please provide an overview of actions taken to implement the System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This summary will form the basis of the compilation report of UN activities to implement the SWAP and the Declaration. [Word limit: 600]

As the lead entity for implementation of Element 1 of the System-Wide Action Plan, the Department continued to chair a working group of communications professionals from across the UN system (including DESA, DPA, FAO, IFAD, IOM, OHCHR, PAHO/WHO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF and UN Women) to raise awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples through consistent messaging and coordinated outreach across the UN system. The inter-agency working group has been meeting quarterly since April 2016 and continues to implement the joint communications strategy developed, including a set of key messages and a range of promotional products in multiple languages, such as digital cards, videos, and backgrounders. A shared online platform established in 2016 continues to serve as the main tool for sharing and cross-promoting content (Trello board: <https://bit.ly/29Q97gH>).

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

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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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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.

The Department worked to raise awareness of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through all its news and media products, including print, video, audio, internet and social media. It provided broad coverage of the 17th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (16-27 April) and the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (9 August), including through:

- Webcast of meetings and press conferences on [webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org);
- Coverage by the Department's Meetings Coverage Service, which published a total of 16 press releases/meeting summaries (8 English/8 French);
- Support to media covering the session, including accreditation and escort for correspondents, notification of events through a daily media alert, and providing journalists with timely copies of statements and documents;
- UN News stories, feature pieces and interviews in the six official languages plus Kiswahili and Portuguese;
- Videos, including one featuring interviews with Forum participants, another explaining the importance of the International Day, and a short feature on protecting the Amazon, made available to broadcasters, and developed in cooperation with UN system partners;
- A fully accessible and mobile-compliant website for the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples ([www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday](http://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday)), with regular updates in the six official UN languages.

The flagship Indigenous Media Zone, aimed at strengthening outreach to indigenous communities and amplifying indigenous voices, was again co-organized by DGC and DESA during the first week of the 17th session of the Permanent Forum in April. Participants included indigenous radio and TV producers as well as activists from dozens of countries. Interviews and discussions on topics including indigenous youth, the Sustainable Development Goals, water and conservation, human rights defenders, women, land rights and languages were streamed live on Facebook, reaching up to 70,000 people each. Other panels were live-streamed through indigenous community media channels, including by Notimia (Latin American indigenous women's news agency), Cultural Survival's indigenous rights radio (global), Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders (Asia), the Language Conservancy (United States) and the American Indian Movement West – a broader range of indigenous media than in the previous year.

To raise the social media profile of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (9 August), the Department worked with Twitter to promote once again an emoji, featuring the UN branding for indigenous issues, for hashtags in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, in close collaboration with UN information centres in Australia, Brazil and Mexico. More than 146,000 tweets with the emoji were posted between 9 August and 13 September (the anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on the rights of

indigenous peoples), compared to 129,000 tweets with the same emoji during the same time period the previous year.

In other outreach, a newly designed print version of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was issued by DGC in English and Spanish. The other four languages are being finalized for print in 2019. All languages will also be posted online.

The Department's Exhibits Unit facilitated an exhibit titled "Maize: Our Food, Our Identity" in the UN Visitors Lobby, focused on the fundamental role of indigenous peoples in the creation and conservation of maize.

The UN Intranet, iSeek, featured announcements of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and an article on the Indigenous Media Zone.

The Visitors Service used its guided tours to inform visitors about the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples and displayed the UN video produced for the Day on a screen for visitors at UN Headquarters.

The Dag Hammarskjöld Library maintains a research guide on indigenous issues (<http://research.un.org/en/indigenous>), including a collection of key UN documents related to the UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

The United Nations iLibrary ([un-ilibrary.org](http://un-ilibrary.org)) provides user-friendly, fully searchable access to digital content on indigenous peoples in all official UN languages, including the UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples.

The UN Bookshop on 24 October 2018 organized a Meet-the-Author event with award-winning photographer Jimmy Nelson, for his book of photographs and interviews of indigenous peoples, attended by over 100 people.

Around the world, UN information centres organized events and activities to raise awareness for indigenous peoples:

UNICs in Ankara, Cairo, Rio de Janeiro, Tehran and Yaoundé and the UN Regional Information Centre in Brussels translated and distributed the Secretary-General's message on the International Day and posted it on social media platforms, including in Turkish, Persian, Portuguese and five Nordic languages.

In June 2018, UNIC Bogotá participated in a panel discussion organized by the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia on preserving and promoting indigenous peoples' rights and cultures.

UNIC Lima promoted the Permanent Forum session on social media and supported a presentation by Tarcila Rivera Zea, Permanent Forum Member from Peru, before the Peruvian Constitutional Court.

In February 2018, UNRIC Brussels conducted a Facebook Live interview with Ryan Killackey, director of the documentary *Yasuni Man*, to highlight environmental and indigenous issues.

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To mark the National Indigenous Day in Brazil in April 2018, UNIC Rio de Janeiro produced a special story about indigenous cultures in the country, linking to the Permanent Forum session. The material was widely shared on social media and disseminated to Portuguese-speaking countries. In March 2018, the Centre recorded a documentary about indigenous women, financed by the UN Country Team, and in December 2018, produced a video interview with Ms. Joênia Wapichana, indigenous activist from Brazil and winner of the 2018 UN Human Rights Prize.

Looking ahead to 2019, the Department developed the logo for the International Year of Indigenous Languages in the six official UN languages as well as Hindi, Kiswahili and Portuguese. The Department's Graphic Design Unit has also designed a range of promotional products for the launch of the year in January 2019.

### **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.

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

For the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples in August 2018, UNIC Bogotá, for instance, worked with UNFPA and FAO to organize a panel discussion, in collaboration with the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, on indigenous health and well-being, emphasizing the situation of indigenous women, especially during and after childbirth.

The Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, during her official missions to Fiji, Panama and Peru, for example, advocated for the rights of indigenous youth with governments, UN Country Teams and other stakeholders.

- 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.* Support for 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**

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- 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?

**DGC promotes indigenous issues as well as the Sustainable Development Goals and seeks to highlight the linkages between the two. Throughout the year, promotion of indigenous rights was put in the context of the 2030 Agenda. For example, the Indigenous Media Zone during the Permanent Forum session featured a widely-viewed panel on indigenous youth and the Sustainable Development Goals, which got almost 10,000 views. The Department will continue to focus on indigenous peoples and the SDGs 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 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.

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With content about indigenous peoples on the Intranet, iSeek, in English and French, DGC raises awareness of indigenous issues among staff members, including those away from UN Headquarters.

A research guide by the 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, targeting indigenous peoples, government officials and NGOs.

### **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.