

**Contribution of the  
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)**

**To the Report of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues  
Eighteenth Session, 2019**

# Questionnaire to UN system

## Summary table of UNITAR contribution to SWAP

<p><b>1. Raising awareness of the UN Declaration</b></p> <p>Each <i>UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives</i> includes a session conducted by an indigenous expert focusing on challenges and successes in implementation of the UN Declaration at the national, regional or international level, as well as documentation and reports on the UN Declaration. Recent UNITAR training programmes and briefings have included a review of progress and challenges in Africa, North America, the Pacific, and internationally.</p>
<p><b>2. Supporting the implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level</b></p> <p>Indigenous Representatives are trained in ILO Convention 169 and constructive negotiation processes to use in dialogue at the country level to further their rights and wellbeing. The UNITAR training is conducted at the international or regional level on an annual basis contingent on funding being secured.</p>
<p><b>3. Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the participation of indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and youth</b></p> <p>Indigenous representatives participating in the UNITAR peacemaking programme enhance their capacities to promote wellbeing and contribute to inclusive peace, development and governance processes. The active engagement of indigenous women is sought, both as resource persons and participants. An indigenous woman is invited each programme to chair the Participants' Forum showcasing innovative approaches in empowering women, youth, and engaging in peace and development processes. Two women and two men are invited to share their lessons and strategies. Youth representatives are invited. Two of the six UNITAR alumni who have become Members of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues are women, including a former chairperson. Two of the four UNITAR alumni to be named to EMRIP are women, including a former chairperson. One of the co-chairs of the international Indigenous Youth Caucus is an indigenous UNITAR programme alumnus.</p>
<p><b>4. Mapping of existing standard and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP</b></p> <p>The UNITAR training programme enhances the capacities of indigenous peoples to engage constructively through dialogue, advocacy and negotiation including on policy reform to improve the wellbeing of indigenous peoples.</p>
<p><b>5. Developing capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN Personnel</b></p> <p>The Institute's Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention Programme was developed to deepen the knowledge and strengthen the skills of key actors and institutions from grassroots to policy levels in conflict analysis, negotiation, mediation, reconciliation and conflict transformation through intensive training programmes. High-level seminars are organized to facilitate dialogue and exchange of lessons among senior peacemakers to enhance UN and regional practice. The UN Secretary-General has identified conflict prevention, the forging of political solutions to address conflict, and strengthening regional capacities and partnerships as top priorities.</p> <p>This work contributes to achieving the 2030 Agenda goal of building peaceful, just and inclusive societies and enhancing women's participation in peace and decision-making processes. 1,675 mid and senior-level officials from States, regional organizations and the UN, and 510 indigenous representatives have been trained to date. At the request of two incoming Members, UNITAR organized a one-week High Level Seminar for Members of the first UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2001 in advance of their first historic session at UN Headquarters. 900 women count among the officials and indigenous representatives who have completed the training programmes conducted at the international level, and in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. The Institute was also requested to develop dedicated training programmes in peacemaking and conflict prevention for women. The first <i>UNITAR Training Programme Strengthening the Capacities of African Women Peacemakers</i> was organized in Addis Ababa in 2018 training 33 senior and mid-level female officials, including 7 FemWise members and a former foreign minister. Government officials, as well as UN and regional organization staff in UNITAR training programmes participate in sessions on inclusive peace and governance, and on addressing root causes of conflict. They are briefed on the Institute's dedicated training programme for indigenous representatives to enhance capacities in conflict prevention, conflict analysis, negotiation and reconciliation. The OHCHR Indigenous Fellows are regularly invited to participate in the UNITAR training in peacemaking and conflict prevention. If funding is not available in a particular year, a UNITAR Briefing is organized as a Side Event at EMRIP with indigenous alumni speaking on a panel sharing lessons from applying methodologies from the training to their work on behalf of their peoples and nations as well as in their roles as Members of the UN Permanent Forum or EMRIP working at regional and international levels.</p>
<p><b>6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes</b></p> <p>Indigenous experts and UNITAR indigenous alumni teach in training programmes presenting case studies on land and resource negotiations, empowerment and participation in political and peace processes, and on effective engagement with UN bodies. The contribution of women is highlighted. The Institute is seeking funds to organize the 2019 UNITAR training on human rights, conflict prevention and peacemaking for indigenous representatives.</p>

### 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 2019 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:

Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch  
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues  
Division for Inclusive Social Development  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Room: S-2954  
United Nations Headquarters  
New York, USA 10017  
Telephone: +1-917-367-5100  
Email: [indigenous\\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) and [melissa.martin@un.org](mailto:melissa.martin@un.org)

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The eighteenth 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.

The Fifteenth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues issued the following specific recommendation regarding the *UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives*:

“The United Nations Institute for Training and Research established training on peace and conflict resolution for indigenous peoples in 2000 at indigenous peoples’ request. It is one of the most important human rights training programmes in the United Nations system that examines the root causes of conflict.

The Permanent Forum urges Member States to contribute support to make possible the annual UNITAR training programme to enhance the conflict prevention and peacemaking capacities of indigenous peoples’ representatives so as to strengthen indigenous capacity to engage in negotiation, dialogue and peace processes to contribute to sustainable peace.”

The *UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives* was developed in 2000 based on the requests of indigenous representatives for strengthened capacities in conflict resolution, and on the recommendation of UN Special Rapporteurs to enhance indigenous abilities to engage in negotiation and the realization of rights. The programme provides training for indigenous representatives in conflict analysis, negotiation, conflict transformation and reconciliation, coupled with information on UN and regional human rights mechanisms to further the promotion and protection of rights, and to contribute to the realization of the implementation of the UN Declaration.

As marginalization from political and economic processes, and conflict over land and resource issues are two of the most challenging areas indigenous peoples continue to face, the majority of cases and negotiation simulations focus on these. The programme reviews both rights-based and problem-solving negotiation processes to strengthen indigenous capacities to analyze root causes of conflict, and engage in negotiation and dialogue with governments, the private sector and other communities to address priorities and resolve conflict in a mutually-beneficial, sustainable manner.

The training programme invites UN Special Rapporteurs and Permanent Forum Members and other senior indigenous experts to conduct sessions on successful negotiation on land and resource issues and on political participation. Initiatives to facilitate dialogue between indigenous representatives, governments and the private sector are also highlighted. Staff of the World Bank and ILO also regularly contribute to the programme.

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

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UNITAR actively seeks the participation and contribution of indigenous women both as resource persons and participants. Women compose over 40% of participants. Some of the senior indigenous women who have taught in programmes at the regional or international level include UN Permanent Forum Members and Chairs, Ministers, and Parliamentarians. Female participants have included a Paramount Chief, an Attorney-General and a Traditional Chief from the Pacific, Presidents of Provincial and National Women's Councils in Africa, the Americas and the Pacific, advisors and other leaders and practitioners, advocates, managers, and community workers from around the world.

The previous UN Special Rapporteur, Professor James Anaya, who has contributed to 12 of the 17 UNITAR training programmes at both the international and regional levels, before his nomination, has also engaged in important dialogue sessions as SR during a regional training in the Pacific. Also appreciated was the important contribution of Dr. Megan Davis as former Permanent Forum Member and previous Chair to the 2015 international training programme, and to two regional training programmes conducted in the Pacific. This was of special significance as she was a graduate of the first UNITAR training programme in 2000.

Five hundred and ten indigenous peoples' representatives from around the world have deepened their knowledge and strengthened their skills through participation in the training programme. Six alumni of the UNITAR programme have served as Expert Members of the Permanent Forum including two former chairpersons, and two currently serving members. Four alumni have been named Members of the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including three chairs (from Burundi, Malaysia, Russia). One of the Co-chairs of the Indigenous Youth Caucus is a UNITAR alumnus. Thirteen graduates have served as resource persons in the training programme to date. Alumni worked at the national, regional and international levels towards the adoption of the UN Declaration and continue to work at multiple levels for its implementation communicating needs and concerns and engaging in dialogue with partners to forge mutually-beneficial solutions to challenges.

Twenty-seven indigenous representatives from Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacific took part in the *2018 UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives* organized in Geneva in July after the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Eleven OHCHR Indigenous Fellows, including the Senior Indigenous Fellow, were among those who completed the programme strengthening knowledge and skills for their strategic work to enhance the well-being of indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels. The publication *Strengthening the Practice of Peacemaking and Preventive Diplomacy in the United Nations: The UNITAR Approach* was provided to each participant as well as an electronic copy of *A Manual for UN Mediators: Advice from UN Representatives and Envoys*, based on interviews conducted by the Institute. UNITAR is grateful to the Government of Canada and to the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs which provided the funding that made the 2018 training programme possible.

### **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]

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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**

1. UNITAR indigenous training programme alumni contributed to constructive negotiation efforts in the lead up to the adoption of the UN Declaration, and are working at multiple levels towards its implementation. Each *UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives* includes a session conducted by an indigenous expert focusing on challenges and successes in implementation of the UN Declaration at the national, regional or international level, as well as documentation and reports on the Declaration. Recent UNITAR training programmes and briefings have included a review of progress and challenges to its implementation in Africa, North America, the Pacific and internationally.
2. A current or former Expert Member of the UN Permanent Forum or of EMRIP conducts a session during the each UNITAR training on “United Nations Mechanisms to Promote Dialogue and Action on Human Rights and Indigenous Issues” and with a focus as well on the Mandate and Strategies to Work with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Mr. Alexey Tsykarev, UNITAR alumnus and former Chairperson of the UN Expert Mechanisms on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, conducted this session for the 2018 international UNITAR Training Programme for indigenous representatives as well as a two-hour session with dialogue on “Identity, Dignity and Inclusion: Access to Information and FPIC as Important Factors to Engage Women, Youth and Civil Society in Peaceful Dialogue and Conflict Prevention.” The Declaration and related UN documents and reports are provided in each participant’s handbook of readings and reference materials along with an extensive bibliography.

### **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.

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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.

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- 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. To contribute to the overall implementation of the UN Declaration, the main objectives of the *UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives* are: to strengthen indigenous participants' capacities to analyze conflict; to identify the needs, fears, concerns and aspirations of all parties to a conflict; and based upon this and engaged in dialogue with partners, to formulate mutually-beneficial and sustainable options to address problems. The focus is on the process of analyzing and dealing with conflict in a constructive manner. This methodology is then applied by indigenous representatives to their key areas of concern and priorities in negotiations with counterparts at multiple levels.
  4. UNITAR actively seeks the participation and contribution of indigenous women both as resource persons and participants. Women compose over 40% of training participants. Some of the senior indigenous women who have taught in programmes at the regional or international levels include UN Permanent Forum Members and Chairs, Ministers, Senators, and Parliamentarians and the sole female negotiator in the Bougainville peace process. Female participants have included a Paramount Chief, an Attorney-General and a Traditional Chief from the Pacific, Presidents of Provincial and National Women's Councils in Africa, the Americas and the Pacific, advisors and other leaders and practitioners, advocates, managers, and community workers from around the world. The Participant Forum session of each training programme invites two female and two male participants from different sectors and regions, to present on their initiatives advancing indigenous rights, negotiations on land and resource issues, empowerment and political participation and is always chaired by an indigenous female participant.
  5. In each UNITAR Training Programme, indigenous representatives are trained in ILO Convention 169 and the theory and practice of constructive negotiation processes to use in dialogue at the country level to further rights, wellbeing and seek mutually-beneficial sustainable solutions. The UNITAR training is conducted at the international or regional level on an annual basis contingent on funding being secured.
  6. With strengthened tools of conflict analysis, negotiation and relationship-building, indigenous representatives are further equipped to engage in dialogue on issues to address the priorities of their communities and to improve the lives of their peoples. The training aims to strengthen indigenous representatives' abilities to negotiate to improve the situations of their peoples in all of the areas under the mandate of the Permanent Forum: health, education, culture, environment, economic and social development, human rights and in the realization of the UN Declaration.

### **3. Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation 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 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).
7. Indigenous representatives participating in the UNITAR Peacemaking training enhance their capacities to promote well-being and contribute to inclusive peace, development and governance processes at local, national, regional and international levels. The active engagement of indigenous women is sought, as resource persons sharing their knowledge and experience, and as participants. Youth representatives, including OHCHR Indigenous Fellows, are also invited. A number of elders, Chiefs and Paramount Chiefs have also completed the intensive UNITAR Training Programme. 510 indigenous peoples' representatives from around the world have been trained to date in eleven international and six regional training programmes to further their rights and meaningful participation in processes that affect them.
8. Two of the six UNITAR alumni appointed/elected to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues are women, including one former chairperson. Two of the four UNITAR alumni named to the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are women. One of the co-chairs of the international Indigenous Youth Caucus is an indigenous UNITAR Training Programme alumnus.

### **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.

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- 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.
9. The UNITAR training programme enhances the capacities of indigenous peoples to engage constructively through dialogue, advocacy and negotiation including on policy reform to improve the situation and wellbeing of indigenous peoples. Dedicated sessions are presented in each training programme by indigenous expert resource persons on UN Dialogue Mechanisms, the mandates of key UN Bodies and how to effectively engage with them to advance indigenous priorities, and on progress and challenges related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.
10. A participant handbook of related UN reports and documents, reading materials and extensive bibliography are provided in addition to publications on ILO 169. Also provided to each indigenous participant and resource person, are the publication from the twentieth anniversary of UNITAR's work enhancing the capacities of key actors, *Strengthening the Practice of Peacemaking and Preventive Diplomacy in the United Nations: The UNITAR Approach*, and a distillation of key lessons and practice from UNITAR interviews with heads of UN peace missions from around the world, *A Manual for UN Mediators: Advice from UN Representatives and Envoys*.

### **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.

disabilities in your response.

11. The Institute's Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention Programme was developed to deepen the knowledge and strengthen the skills of key actors and institutions from grassroots to policy levels in conflict analysis, negotiation, mediation, reconciliation and conflict transformation through intensive training programmes. High-level seminars are also organized to facilitate dialogue and exchange of lessons among senior peacemakers to enhance UN and regional practice. The UN Secretary-General has identified conflict prevention, the forging of political solutions to address conflict, and strengthening regional capacities and partnerships as top priorities.
12. This work contributes to achieving the 2030 Agenda goal of building peaceful, just and inclusive societies and enhancing women's participation in peace and decision-making processes. 1,675 mid and senior-level officials from States, regional organizations and the United Nations, and 510 indigenous representatives have been trained to date. UNITAR organized a one-week High Level Seminar for Members of the first UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2001 in advance of their first historic session

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at UN Headquarters. Representatives of 16 UN agencies, funds and programmes, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Special Rapporteur Dr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen all engaged in dialogue sessions with the new UN Permanent Forum Members.

13. 900 women count among the officials, staff and indigenous representatives who have completed the UNITAR Training Programmes conducted at the international level, and in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. The Institute has also been requested to develop dedicated training programmes in peacemaking and conflict prevention for women, as well as a programme for youth. The first *UNITAR Training Programme Strengthening the Capacities of African Women Peacemakers* was conducted in Addis Ababa in 2018 with the participation of 33 senior and mid-level women, including 7 members of FemWise, and a former Foreign Minister.
14. Government officials, as well as UN and regional organization staff in UNITAR peacemaking training programmes participate in sessions on inclusive peace and governance, and on addressing root causes of conflict. They are briefed on the Institute's dedicated training programme for indigenous representatives to enhance capacities in conflict prevention, conflict analysis, negotiation and reconciliation. The OHCHR Indigenous Fellows are regularly invited to participate in the UNITAR training in peacemaking and conflict prevention. If funding is not available in a particular year for the full training programme, a UNITAR Briefing is organized as a Side Event at EMRIP with indigenous programme alumni speaking on a panel sharing lessons and observations on their application of the methodologies to their work on behalf of their peoples and nations as well as in their roles as Expert Members of the UN Permanent Forum or EMRIP working at regional and international levels.

### **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.

15. Indigenous experts and UNITAR indigenous alumni teach in training programs presenting case studies on land and resource negotiations, empowerment and participation in political and peace processes, and on effective engagement with UN bodies. Thirteen indigenous alumni from Australia, Columbia, Fiji, Hawai'i, Kenya, Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Russia have served as resource persons to date in the international and/or regional training programmes. Senior ILO and World Bank officials also regularly present and engage in dialogue sessions with indigenous representatives from around the world. The contribution of women to peace and development processes is highlighted and indigenous women contribute to each UNITAR training programme as expert resource persons.

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16. The Institute is seeking funds to organize the 2019 UNITAR training on human rights and conflict resolution for indigenous representatives. The Government of Canada has provided a first contribution towards the 2019 requested international training programme to take place immediately after EMRIP for which the Institute is most grateful. UNITAR is seeking the balance of funds for the 2019 programme to go forward with the organization of this intensive residential training programme to strengthen key indigenous capacities.

17. Dr. Megan Davis, EMRIP Expert Member, Former Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and UNITAR Training Programme alumna stated:

“I do believe very strongly in the importance of the training and its impact upon Indigenous peoples’ lives. It literally changed my life. I am keen to give back to something that gave so much to me.”

18. The Fifteenth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues issued the following specific recommendation regarding the *UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples’ Representatives*:

“The United Nations Institute for Training and Research established training on peace and conflict resolution for indigenous peoples in 2000 at indigenous peoples’ request. It is one of the most important human rights training programmes in the United Nations system that examines the root causes of conflict. The Permanent Forum urges Member States to contribute support to make possible the annual UNITAR training programme to enhance the conflict prevention and peacemaking capacities of indigenous peoples’ representatives so as to strengthen indigenous capacity to engage in negotiation, dialogue and peace processes to contribute to sustainable peace.”