



THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Asia Regional Dialogue

Conference Room 4

Wednesday, 1 May

3pm – 6pm

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will hold a Regional Dialogue for Asia between indigenous peoples and Member States. UN agencies, funds and programmes and regional and national Human Rights Institutions and academia can also attend. The dialogue will begin with introductory remarks from the Permanent Forum Members, who will also moderate the session. Interventions from States and indigenous peoples should be brief and address a specific issue so that the discussions can be conducted in an interactive manner. Speakers are requested to limit their interventions to 3 minutes each.

Discussion topics:

1. Traditional knowledge is the core foundation of indigenous peoples' identities, cultural heritage, civilizations, livelihoods and coping strategies for millennia.
 - What policies, mechanisms, strategies, and programs are needed to ensure the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights to maintain, protect, control and strengthen their traditional knowledge?
 - What role can the State, indigenous institutions and the UN system play to catalyze the long-term preservation of traditional knowledge?
2. Conflicts over land are ongoing challenges for indigenous peoples in Asia.
 - What are some of the underlying tensions between the interests of national, corporate and indigenous peoples over land?
 - What are the existing practices and challenges of ensuring collective rights of indigenous peoples to lands, territories and resources?
3. How can indigenous peoples be better included within the large development and economic projects and resource extraction pursued throughout the region?
 - How can indigenous peoples be involved in environmental and social impact assessments of such projects to ensure that indigenous rights are guaranteed, and ensure that indigenous peoples are not excluded from the SDGs?

Overall objective of the regional dialogues: <https://bit.ly/2V2B6Rp>

Recommendations database of the Permanent Forum: <https://goo.gl/K5U4fg>

