

Questionnaire to UN system

Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) 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 the 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; prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues; and promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and follow up the effectiveness of the Declaration.

The Indigenous Peoples Development Branch/Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites UN system agencies, funds and programmes and other intergovernmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations, the system-wide action plan on rights of indigenous peoples (SWAP), the 2030 Development Agenda and COVID-19 recovery efforts.

The responses will be compiled into two separate reports for the 2022 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Implementation by the United Nations System; and (b) Update on the Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda. In your responses, please, include information on progress and challenges related to indigenous women, indigenous persons with disabilities, indigenous older persons, and indigenous children and youth.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DISD 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 **15 November 2021** 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
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Telephone: +1-917-367-5100
Email: indigenous_un@un.org and requesens@un.org

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Questionnaire

Please provide information on the following:

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2022 session

- i. Please provide information on measures taken since your last update to the Forum, on the implementation or planned implementation of the recommendations of the PFII.
- ii. The theme of the 2022 PFII session is “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”¹. Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

During the first months of 2021, UNAIDS continued with the process of development of the global AIDS strategy (2021 – 2026). With inputs from more than 10,000 stakeholders from 160 countries, including, representatives of indigenous peoples and other affected populations, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) has adopted in March the strategy.

The Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026, End Inequalities, End AIDS, uses an inequalities lens to close the gaps preventing progress to end AIDS and sets out bold new targets and policies to be reached by 2025 to propel new energy and commitment to ending AIDS.

The document of the strategy recognizes the vulnerability of indigenous peoples to the HIV pandemic. As other populations such as people in humanitarian settings, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples “face unique challenges in accessing HIV testing, treatment and care”. The inclusion of indigenous peoples as a priority population in the strategy responds to the recommendation of the Permanent Forum for UNAIDS to contribute to expanding access to health, including HIV services, among indigenous peoples.

In addition to the strategy, the first semester of 2021 was marked by the preparations for the UN High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS and the negotiations for a new political declaration with commitments and targets to end AIDS.

Aligned with the recommendation of the Forum regarding the participation of indigenous peoples in health and HIV fora, UNAIDS organized a meeting between colleagues from different departments and representatives of the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV & AIDS to listen to the aspirations of the network for the year ahead, including regarding their participation in the HLM.

In the run-up to the HLM, an interactive multistakeholder hearing was organized with the participation of communities and other stakeholders. To ensure the involvement of civil society and ensure an open, transparent and participatory process, UNAIDS formed a multistakeholder task force comprised of representatives of civil society and the private sector. Through a public call, sixteen constituency networks were asked to nominate people to be considered for the task force – including a representative of networks or organizations of indigenous people.

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To support the work of the Task Force, UNAIDS also constituted an advisory group formed by community leaders with experience in previous HLM. A representative of the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV & AIDS was also invited to be part of the group

This strong representation of indigenous networks in the preparatory process for the HLM guaranteed that the perspectives and issues faced by indigenous peoples in the HIV response were included in the most important documents of the HLM: the report of the President of the General Assembly on the Multistakeholder hearing, the Civil Society Political Declaration for the HLM and the new political declaration on HIV adopted by Member States in the UN General Assembly in June. In the Political Declaration, Member States noted that indigenous peoples may be at increased risk to HIV depending on the epidemiological and social context of a particular country.

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

Background

As per the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/69/2), a [system-wide action plan 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.

In August 2020, the United Nations Executive Committee agreed on the need for accelerated and collective action to strengthen the implementation of the SWAP on indigenous peoples. In November 2020, the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination issued a [Call to Action: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples](#). Its goal is to ensure collaborative and coherent UN system action to support the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples with a focus on furthering the implementation of the SWAP².

- i. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made on the SWAP implementation as part of its discussion on the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples during its 2022 session. Please provide analysis on actions taken by your agency, fund and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum³. Please also include an executive summary (600-word limit).

¹ See Annex 1. Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

² Reporting on the activities to implement the CEB Call to Action will be through task groups and should not be included in the responses to this questionnaire.

³ The six key elements of the SWAP are: 1) Raise awareness of the UNDRIP; 2) Support the implementation of the UNDRIP, particularly at the country level; 3) Support the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacity, training materials and resources within the UN system, international financial institutions

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With less than 10 years to go to reach our common goal of ending AIDS as part of the 2030 agenda, UNAIDS has developed a new global AIDS strategy. The new Strategy is the result of extensive analysis of HIV data and an inclusive process of consultation with member states, communities, and partners, including representatives of networks of indigenous communities.

The Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026 - End Inequalities. End AIDS is a bold new approach to use an inequalities lens to close the gaps that are preventing progress towards ending AIDS. Considering that in many countries indigenous peoples face multiple structural barriers that increase their vulnerability to HIV, the new focus on inequalities provides a useful contribution with realization of indigenous peoples' rights, especially the right to health.

The Strategy keeps people at the centre and aims to unite countries, communities and partners across and beyond the HIV response to take prioritized actions to accelerate progress towards the vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths. The Strategy seeks to empower people with the programmes and resources they need to exercise their rights, protect themselves and thrive in the face of HIV.

Within the framework of the SDGs and the Universal Health Coverage, the strategy is focused in promoting equitable access to effective, innovative and quality combination HIV prevention that includes PrEP, treatment optimization and care services (including comprehensive TB programmes), with a focus on key populations and priority populations (including indigenous populations, migrants, adolescent and youth), through active civil society engagement and social contracting initiatives.

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- i. Please provide information on the main gaps and challenges your entity has identified for indigenous peoples in achieving the 2030 Agenda.
- ii. What activities have your entity undertaken since the last reporting that addresses these gaps and challenges?
- iii. Please describe any activities that your entity organized in support of the 2021 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and/or reports and activities that supported SDG reporting and monitoring or a VNR process at the national, regional, or global level.

During the Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs, the new Global AIDS Strategy (2021 – 2026) calls for bold, inclusive, multisectoral approaches to HIV to reduce inequalities, protect human rights and strengthen collaboration and synergies between HIV-specific and broader health and development initiatives and systems at all levels.

The document of the strategy recognizes indigenous peoples as one of the priority population. UNAIDS uses the term priority populations to describe groups of people who in a specific geographical context (country or location) are important for the HIV response because they are at increased risk of acquiring HIV or disadvantaged when living with HIV, due to a range of societal, structural or personal circumstances.

In the Result Area on Gender Equality, indigenous women are included as a priority population. Among other priority actions UNAIDS will work to “ensure that women and girls who face intersecting forms of discrimination and violence (e.g. indigenous women, women with disabilities, women who use drugs, women in prison, female sex workers and transgender

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women) receive the tailored services and support they need”.

Asia and Pacific

Considerations on indigenous issues are highly pertinent in the context of UNAIDS work in the Pacific (particularly in Fiji and in Papua New Guinea) as well as in some sub-regions of other countries like Indonesia (West Papua Province) and the Philippines (Bangsamoro Autonomous region in Muslim Mindanao), and in some parts of India and Myanmar.

In these regions, even when there aren't specific interventions and activities presented as a response to indigenous issues, the consideration of these issues is present in all strategies to promote health and respond to HIV pandemic.

In Indonesia, in the Tanah Papua Region that is strongly characterized by indigenous issues, UNAIDS has contributed for the development of the HIV Prevention and Control Strategy for 2022 – 2023 and for the Global Funding Request covering the same period.

In the Philippines, UN is supporting the implementation of Bangsamoro Organic Law enacted in 2018 which creates the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, home to minority Muslims fighting for self-determination in the predominantly Roman Catholic Philippines. UN agencies are providing technical assistance and implementing several projects (housing, policy development, health services, etc.) to the region to ensure smooth transition of their newly formed government. UNAIDS supported the development of health strategic plan which prioritizes reproductive health including HIV.

D. COVID-19 pandemic

- i. Please provide information on action taken by your agency, fund and/or programme since your last update to the Forum, to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on indigenous peoples.

Due to patterns of social and economic marginalization and discriminatory enforcement, COVID-19 affected vulnerable communities heavily, including women, LGBTI people, sex workers, homeless people, indigenous populations and people living with disabilities. In this context, UNAIDS has emphasised human rights as a core concern for HIV and COVID-19 responses.

In Latin America and Caribbean, through the Soy Clave initiative, UNAIDS and its partners focus on offering support to community-led projects around three pillars: prevention of the transmission of COVID-19, continuation of the HIV response and upholding human rights and preventing stigma, discrimination and violence towards people living with or affected by HIV and COVID-19. The National Federation of Peasant, Artisan, Indigenous, Native and Salaried Women of Peru (Fenmucarinap) is among the 61 organizations that have received grants support community-led solutions in the response to HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Brazil, UNAIDS established a partnership with UNESCO in a joint, collaborative and intersectoral strategy to grant Venezuelan migrants access to health education, prevention, and health promotion, and to support the responses of Roraima to HIV and COVID-19 with focus on most vulnerable communities, including such as sex workers and LGBTQIA+ population, youth and indigenous peoples.

In Peru, UNAIDS continued to support the implementation of the he implementation of the "Saving lives and protecting the rights of indigenous Amazonian women in the COVID-19

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response" funded by the United Nations (UN) COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (COVID-19 MPTF).

Thank you very much

and the members of the IASG for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP; 5) Develop the capacity of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel; and 6) Advance the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes.

ANNEX 1

Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Twentieth-First session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is scheduled to take place from **25 April to 6 May 2022**

Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”.
4. Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health, and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. Dialogues:
 - (a) Dialogue with indigenous peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with Member States;
 - (c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
 - (d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - (e) Regional dialogues: Indigenous peoples and pandemic recovery;
 - (f) Thematic dialogues: International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022–2032.
6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
7. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-first session.