



# **United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

**Report on the fifteenth  
session**

**(09 - 20 May 2016)**

**Recommendations pertaining specifically to  
indigenous women and girls, adopted by the  
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

## **Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

### **Economic and social development**

**35.** Building upon past work of the Permanent Forum with regard to indigenous women, in particular the study on the extent of violence against indigenous women and girls in terms of article 22 (2) of the United Nations Declaration (see [E/C.19/2013/9](#)) and the report of the international expert group meeting on combating such violence (see [E/2012/43-E/C.19/2012/13](#)) the Forum recommends that States adopt measures aimed at addressing the specific problems of police brutality, systemic police violence and discrimination against indigenous women, as experienced, for example, by indigenous women in Val-d'Or, Canada, Sepur Zarco, Guatemala, and north-east India.

**36.** The Permanent Forum welcomes the intention of the Commission on the Status of Women to make the issue of the empowerment of indigenous women a focus area of its sixty-first session, to be held in 2017. The Forum invites the Bureau of the Commission to consider organizing a half-day session on the issue. The Forum calls upon the Commission to consider the empowerment of indigenous women as a theme in future sessions, pursuant to paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 69/2.

**37.** The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women prepare a specific report on the situation of indigenous women's empowerment, in collaboration with the Forum and indigenous women's organizations, for submission to the Forum at its seventeenth session.

**38.** The Permanent Forum urges Member States and funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to implement action to reduce maternal mortality among indigenous women. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women publish a factsheet, in collaboration with the Forum, on indigenous women's maternal mortality and maternal health, with the aim of reducing maternal mortality and promoting sexual and reproductive health.

**39.** The Permanent Forum urges Member States and funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to implement actions to strengthen the leadership and political participation of indigenous women.

### **Discussion on the theme "Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution"**

**52.** Consistent with articles 7 and 30 of the United Nations Declaration, States should take measures for settlement, protection and security in the post-conflict period, and for the construction of durable and lasting peace, promoting the full and effective inclusion of indigenous peoples, including indigenous women, in any initiative for peace and reconciliation.

**57.** Sexual and gender-based violence increases in settings of conflict. Sexual violence has also been used systematically as a weapon of war against indigenous women. In the light of the particular risks and vulnerabilities of indigenous women and girls relating to sexual and gender-based violence, the Permanent Forum recommends that Governments, local authorities, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and civil society collaborate with indigenous peoples to establish multisectoral and holistic approaches to combat the various forms of violence against women and girls.