Questionnaire to Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations

The secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned related to indigenous peoples’ rights, policies and the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Questionnaire responses will be placed on the Permanent Forum’s website and also compiled into one report for the Forum’s fifteenth session.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by 1 January 2016 to:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Social Policy and Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Room: S-2958
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Telephone: 917-367-5100; fax: 917-367-5102
Email: smallacombe@un.org
The fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 9 to 20 May 2016.

The provisional agenda for the Permanent Forum’s fifteenth session includes:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
5. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution”.
7. Dialogue with Member States.
9. Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples:
   (a) Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples;
   (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
10. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
11. Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session.
12. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its fifteenth session.
Questionnaire

1. Please provide the name of your organization and the country where it is based.

WEST PAPUA INTEREST ASSOCIATION (WPIA) is an indigenous peoples organization which is consisting of representatives of West Papua indigenous peoples and indigenous peoples of West Papua from all places on the land and territory of West Papua. There are many different tribes in West Papua; from the middle highlands, lowland, valley, lake, river, coastal and small islands of West Papua that have gather together in West Papua Interest Association indigenous peoples organization of West Papua. We are based in Papua Province on the land of West Papua - in Indonesia.

2. What are the main objectives and goals of your organization?

The main objectives and goals of West Papua Interest Association (WPIA) is to advocating for the international recognition for the Human Rights of West Papua indigenous peoples to self-determination in determining the political status based on UN Charter, UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to colonial countries and Peoples, UN International Covenant and UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 3.

To Promote, Defend and Protect the human rights of West Papua Indigenous Peoples which continue facing the human rights abuses because of the Indonesia occupation.

3. Which indigenous groups does your organization represent and what is the total number of indigenous peoples within these groups?

WPIA is an indigenous peoples organization which consisting of all tribes and indigenous peoples on the land and territory of West Papua. In WPIA there are many different tribes of indigenous peoples in West Papua which have been register and obtain identity in WPIA based on UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 33 about Identity in indigenous institution or organization. The total number of member which have been register around 40 000.

4. Has your Organization participated in any sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues? If yes, please indicate the year(s).

WPIA active participate and made several intervention on human rights situation in West Papua during the session from the year 2008 to 2015.

5. In what ways does the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues support indigenous peoples in your organization?

We need UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to bring West Papua indigenous peoples aspiration of Self-Determinations to the attention of United Nations Secretary General.
At its fifteenth session in 2016, the Permanent Forum’s theme will be **Indigenous Peoples: conflict, peace and resolution.** Please provide information as to whether your organization is working on issues related to conflict, peace and resolution for indigenous peoples. Where possible, please include information on the situation of indigenous women in your responses.

**THE CONFLICT IN NETHERLAND NEW GUINEA/WEST PAPUA.**

The New York Agreement August 15, 1962 between the Kingdom of Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia concerning West Irian does not involved or respect the rights of free, prior and informed consent of West Papua indigenous peoples and this is where the initial conflict, violation and murder of indigenous peoples. The implementation of the Act of Free Choice, or the Indonesian version is People Determination Opinion (Penentuan Pendapat Rakyat /PEPERA) in 1969 and the result was a source of conflict in West Papua.

In general, West Papua indigenous peoples do not accept the results of PEPERA which is still a matter of controversy and has not been forgotten by the indigenous peoples of West Papua since the implementation of PEPERA not in accordance with the international practice that should be (one men one vote) as mentioned in the New York Agreement.

United Nations Resolution 2504 (XXIV) of 19 November 1969, Noting that Government of Indonesia, in implementing its national development plan is giving special attention to the progress of West Irian, bearing in mind the specific condition of its population. Thus, the indigenous people of West Papua considered that the United Nations allow Indonesia to do the development in West Papua land, however many indigenous peoples have been killed since Indonesia occupation. It is part of the conflict and the massacre of the indigenous peoples which United Nations does not realize.

Indonesian occupation of Netherlands New Guinea / West Papua create the ongoing conflict. The indigenous people of West Papua struggle for the Independence from the Republic of Indonesia. And the Indonesia military operations against the indigenous peoples those who struggle for the independence of West Papua. Arrests, kidnappings, torture, rape, murder and massive refugees of West Papua indigenous peoples to Papua New Guinea.

The Indonesian military operations with the repressive action, making trauma, indigenous people of West Papua store the deep wounds and as a form of human rights violations against indigenous peoples. But the indigenous people continue for defending for a truth, justice and peace in West Papua.

**SPECIAL AUTONOMY IN PAPUA PROVINCE.**

From the perspective of Indonesian government the source of conflict in West Papua is a Welfare Problem, however the truth is a **Political problem.**

To resolve the conflict and demands of West Papua indigenous peoples for independence from Indonesia, the Indonesian government grant a Special Autonomy Law No. 21 of the year 2001 for Papua Province with the aim to muffle West Papua independence aspiration.
Indigenous people of West Papua rejected the special autonomy but Indonesia central government force to implement special autonomy in Papua Province.

In the era of special autonomy implementation in Papua Province, there’s no any significant changes. During the evaluation seminar of Special Autonomy in Papua Province evidently the implementation of the Special Autonomy failed. The result of the special autonomy is the increasing of human rights violations, conflicts still continue to occur and never end. Shootings against the indigenous peoples by Indonesian National Army and Police still continue to occur in the year 2015.

SOLUTION TO END THE CONFLICT IN WEST PAPUA.

-United Nations not to let the conflict continue to occur in West Papua, and do not let indigenous people die by the gunfire of Indonesian Military.

-United Nations and International communities should be responsible for the settlement of the conflict that still continues in Netherlands New Guinea / West Papua because of West Papua indigenous peoples demand to Self-Determination and Independence.

7. In the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/69/2), member States committed themselves to “taking, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, appropriate measures at the national level, including legislative, policy and administrative measures, to achieve the ends of the Declaration…” (paragraph 7) on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and that the action plan be developed in consultation with Member States, Indigenous Peoples and the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues.

In relation to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, please outline the following:

(i) Has your organization been involved in any state-led measures to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples? Please provide details on the level of your participation. /NO

(ii) What are the major successes as well as the remaining obstacles for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples for the people that organization represents?

Dissemination of information regarding UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples among indigenous peoples. The obstacle is the indigenous peoples and indigenous organization continue face discrimination by local government and police that labelling indigenous peoples organization and groups as illegal organization and separatist organization.

(iii) Is your organization involved in the collection and dissemination of disaggregated data or culturally relevant data on indigenous peoples?
8. How does your organization implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the community level?

*Dissemination of information among indigenous peoples of West Papua regarding their rights which contain in the UNDRIPs.*

9. Does your organization provide regular or ad hoc capacity-building programmes on indigenous peoples’ rights for staff and members of the community, or planned capacity-building activities in this area? *Human Rights Training Programme among indigenous representatives.*

10. Does the United Nations support your organization’s work on indigenous peoples’ issues?

*We really hope the serious attention and support of the United Nations.*

11. Please provide information of conferences and other meetings organized or supported by your Organization for 2016 and 2017.

*We strongly support for the International Meeting or Conference in 2016 and 2017 that could make a difference to the lives of indigenous peoples and human rights situation in West Papua.*

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