

Questionnaire to National Human Rights Institutions

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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 its 2016 session includes a number of recommendations within its mandated areas, some of which are addressed to human rights institutions (attached). The report can be found at : <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfi-sessions-2/unpfi-fifteenth-session.html>

The secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites national human rights institutions to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned related to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

The responses will be compiled into one report for the sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum which will take place from 24 April to 5 May 2017. All responses will be placed on the UN's website at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples>

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **1 January 2017** to:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Social Policy and Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Room: S- 2954
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Telephone : 917-367-5100; fax : 917- 367-5102
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The sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **24 April to 5 May 2017**.

Draft Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum:
 - (a) Empowerment of indigenous women;
 - (b) Indigenous youth.
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. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
6. Dialogue with Member States.
7. Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.
8. Discussion on the theme “Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration”.
9. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
10. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples with regard to indigenous human rights defenders.
11. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:
 - (a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies or 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.
12. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, and emerging issues.
13. Provisional agenda for the seventeenth session.
14. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its sixteenth session

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The theme of the 2017 session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be:
Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration.

1. Recommendations of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 2016 session, the Permanent Forum recognized “*the contributions of national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples, and welcomed their participation in future sessions of the Forum*”.¹

- a) The theme of the 2016 session was “*Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution*” (paragraphs 49-64). Please provide information on how your Human Rights Institution 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.
- b) The 2017 session will include a focus on indigenous human rights defenders. Please provide information on the work of your commission/institution in relation to indigenous human rights defenders?

2. Promoting and protecting indigenous peoples' rights

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted in 2007. To mark the tenth anniversary, and assess gains and achievements, please provide further information on the following:

- a) What are the main activities carried out by your institution/commission at the national and/or regional level to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
- b) What are the main constitutional, legislative and/or administrative developments taken or planned to promote and/or implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in your country? Has your institution/commission been involved in these processes, and if so how?
- c) Has your institution/commission been engaged in the process for the Universal Periodic Review, and the work of the special procedures and treaty bodies? If so, did this include specific reference to indigenous peoples?
- d) Please provide information on any activities and programmes that your institution/commission carries out or plans to that are specific to indigenous peoples.
- e) Has your institution/commission been engaged in protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, with particular reference to their lands, territories and resources?

3. Follow up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

The UN organized the first World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in September 2014. At the World Conference, Member States made a number of commitments that are of relevance to human rights institutions. Please provide information on measures taken or planned by your institution to support the following:

¹ Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: Report on the fifteenth session (E/2016/43-E/C.19/2-16/11), para 23

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- a) To develop and implement national action plans, strategies or other measures, where relevant, to achieve the ends of the Declaration, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, through their own representative institutions;²
- b) To intensify efforts, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous peoples and individuals, in particular women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, by strengthening legal, policy and institutional frameworks;³
- c) To establish at the national level, in conjunction with the indigenous peoples concerned, fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent processes to acknowledge, advance and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to lands, territories and resources.⁴

For more information on the UN Permanent Forum's sixteenth session please see www.un.org/indigenous

² A/RES/69/2, para 8.

³ Ibid, para 18.

⁴ Ibid, para 21.