

**BACKGROUND NOTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
SYSTEM WIDE ACTION PLAN TO ENSURE A COHERENT
APPROACH TO ACHIEVING THE ENDS OF THE UNITED
NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES**

Background Note 7

**Online questionnaire on the follow-up to the 2014 World Conference on
Indigenous Peoples: Inputs from Indigenous Peoples on implementation of
the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

Prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples
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Introduction

In the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, to begin the development, within existing resources, of a system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The General Assembly also requested that this action plan be developed in consultation with indigenous peoples and Member States.

In March-April 2015, as a part of these consultations, UN-DESA prepared a questionnaire that was disseminated electronically to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations and a separate online questionnaire for indigenous peoples and their organizations. The questionnaire asked twelve questions related to the follow-up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples including specific questions on what the challenges are to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and what role the United Nations could play in overcoming these challenges. A total of 435 responses were received while 227 responded specifically to the questions below¹.

I. Challenges to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The questionnaire asked indigenous peoples to identify some of the challenges to achieving the aims of the Declaration. The following elements were highlighted by the respondents followed by the number of respondents who highlighted the item:

1. A **lack of political will** by governments at different levels to implement the provisions of the Declaration. In relation to this, many respondents said that some states do not recognize indigenous peoples as indigenous, while others stated that private sector interests are prioritized over the rights of indigenous peoples. (139 times)
2. A **lack of information and a lack of awareness** about the rights of indigenous peoples, both by governments as well as indigenous peoples. (33 times)
3. A **lack of institutional mechanisms and legal frameworks** (at both the national and international level) to monitor and promote the implementation of the Declaration. (28 times)
4. A **lack of resources and/or capacity of indigenous peoples** and their organizations to effectively promote the implementation of the Declaration and to affect policy. (13 times)
5. A lack of **financial resources** devoted by governments to promoting the rights of indigenous peoples (11 times).
6. Climate change and environmental degradation. (2 times)
7. A lack of support for indigenous peoples from the United Nations. (1 time)

¹ See Annex I below.

II. Recommendation to the United Nations

The questionnaire also asked indigenous peoples to identify specific actions that the United Nations could take to promote the provisions of the Declaration. The following elements were highlighted by the respondents followed by the number of respondents who highlighted the item:

1. Establish a **mechanism that monitors state implementation** of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. 28 respondents specifically called for a monitoring body while 30 others called on the United Nations to “force”, “get” or “make” states respect the rights of indigenous peoples and to implement the Declaration. (58 times)
2. Reform **participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations**, taking into account indigenous peoples that are not recognized by the states in which they live and also with a view to expanding adequate participation of genuine representatives of indigenous peoples. (34 times)
3. Promote **increased awareness and education** on the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples. (20 times)
4. Provide indigenous peoples and their organizations with **support and training/capacity building**. (14 times)
5. The United Nations, including the indigenous specific mechanisms and the UNCTs need to be in more direct contact with indigenous peoples, they should visit their territories and designate focal points to work with indigenous peoples. (9 times)
6. Ensure that human rights treaty bodies take the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into account while carrying out their mandates. (8 times)
7. Provide the forum or platform for constructive dialogue between indigenous peoples and governments at the national as well as the international level and UN staff should receive training in this regard. (7 times)
8. Ensure that UN agencies working on the ground on the rights of indigenous peoples have adequate support and resources. (4 times)
9. The Committee on Decolonization and the Trusteeship Council should take up the decolonization of indigenous peoples’ territories. (3 times)
10. Cooperate with national and regional human rights institutions to promote the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. (2 times)
11. Recognize indigenous peoples’ rights to their lands and sacred sites. (2 times)
12. The Economic and Social Council should have a specific agenda item on indigenous peoples to ensure effective dialogue and concrete actions. (1 time)
13. Appoint a Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on indigenous peoples. (1 time)
14. Increased transparency by the United Nations. (1 time)
15. Include indigenous peoples’ concerns in the Sustainable Development Goals. (1 time)

III. Conclusions

According to the responses provided by indigenous peoples the one primary obstacle to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is a lack of political will by governments to respect indigenous peoples' rights and to implement the Declaration. Other challenges include a lack of awareness of indigenous peoples' rights, a lack of resources devoted to indigenous peoples' issues and a lack of institutional and legal frameworks to protect their rights. These were mentioned in an overwhelming majority of responses and they overlap significantly. One other challenge that indigenous peoples mentioned is that their organizations and representatives need added resources and capacity to promote the rights of indigenous peoples. One respondent cited a lack of support from the United Nations as an obstacle to achieving the ends of the Declaration.

When asked specifically to highlight what the United Nations can do to achieve the ends of the Declaration, most of the responses were consistent with the problem analysis. In their responses many indigenous respondents stated their expectation that the United Nations to assist in monitoring the implementation of the Declaration and ensure or promote state compliance with the Declaration. Other recommendations focused on the interaction between the United Nations and indigenous peoples, including increased and reformed participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations, more direct contact with indigenous peoples and the provision of support and capacity building for indigenous peoples' organizations.

Annex I:

Inputs received from indigenous peoples

The questionnaire for indigenous peoples was published online on 3 March 2015. Information about the questionnaire was disseminated via an extensive e-mail list of indigenous representatives that has been maintained by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum since its establishment in 2003. Information was also disseminated via the networks of the members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues. Initially the questionnaire provided inputs for the preparation of a Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. Due to the necessary deadline for the submission of the Report, a deadline for submitting responses to the questionnaire was also necessary. Upon completion of the Report and in response to requests from indigenous peoples and Member States, the online questionnaire was re-opened in May 2015. UN-DESA continues to monitor responses to the questionnaire. Inputs made in May and June 2015 are included in this current analysis.

A total of 435 responses have been received from indigenous peoples from all seven socio-cultural regions as of 26 June 2015.

Inputs received from each socio-cultural region	
Africa	36
Arctic	6
Asia	41
South and Central America and the Caribbean	154
North America	93
Pacific	47
Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia	15
Unknown	43
Total	435

Responses were received from individuals as well as from indigenous peoples' organizations and other non-governmental organizations. The following organizations provided inputs:

A I P I N Agencia Internacional de Prensa India Región Centro Occidente que abarca los Estados de Michoacan Jalisco y Nayarit	Mexico
Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto	Canada
Aboriginal Rights Coalition Australia	Australia
Aboriginal Rights Coalition-Australia	Australia
African Indigenous Peoples Network	Burkina Faso
Agenda Ciudadana por el Desarrollo y la Corresponsabilidad Social A.C.	México
Ahwaz Human Rghts Organization.	Iran
Aide aux femmes et Enfants	Congo Brazzaville
AMAECO Amigos do Meio Ambiente e da Ecologia	Brazil
Amazigh congress	Libya
American Association of Crimean Turks	United States
American Indian Movement	United States
Americans for Indian Opportunity	United States

Amerindian Peoples Association (APA)	Guyana
Aorangi-Awarua Ahuwhenua Trust	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Asociación de Agricultores Indígenas de Comunidades Campesinas y Nativas de Huanuco	Peru
Asociación Indígena Ñuke - Mapu	Chile
Asociación ASKABAINANOKAN	Colombia
Asociacion diaguitas elquinos llstay	Chile
Asociacion indígena pehuenche comuna de santa maria	Chile
Asociacion Indígena Urbana Pacha Aru	Chile
Asociación IXACAVAA de Desarrollo e Información Indígena	Costa Rica
Asociación Kunas Unidos por Napguana	Panamá
Asociacion para el desarrollo integral de las comunidades indigenas ixim	Guatemala
Assembly of First Nations Dagestan	Russian Federation
Associação dos Indígenas da Área Metropolitana de Belém	Brazil
Associação Indígena da Metrôpole de Belém	Brazil
Associação Renascer ao Apoio a Cultura Indígena.	Brazil
Association "ELLAY" de Tombouctou	Mali
Association culturelle et scientifique de khenchela	Algeria
Association de Femmes de Kabylie	Algeria
Association des Femmes Peules Autochtones du Tchad	Chad
Association for Land Reform and development-ALRD	Bangladesh
Association of Indigenous Peoples of Koryakia	Russian Federation
Association of Indigenous Peoples of the Nanay Region	Russian Federation
Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname	Suriname
Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi	Burundi
Assuib-Associação de Academicos ingigenas em Brazilia	Brazil
Aupuni Hawai`i	United States
Bamata Tribal Council	Philippines
Bangladesh Centre for Human Rights and Development-BCHRD	Bangladesh
Banosree Nari Unnayan Foundation	Bangladesh
Bear Clan of Maxan Lake B.C. Canada	Canada
Black Rainbow Living Well	Australia
Brazilian Network for Suicide Prevention www.rebraps.gov.br	Brazil
Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association	Cambodia
Center for World Indigenous Studies	United States
Central Indígena del Pueblo Leco de Apolo	Bolivia
Centre for Research and Advocacy Manipur	India
Centro de ABRigo e Proteção à Vida das Mulheres indígenas	Brazil
Centro de Cultura e Concentração Espiritual da Floresta Yurabaka Naibai Yuxibu Baibu	Brazil
Centro de Mujeres Aymaras Candelaria	Bolivia
Cherokee Nation	United States
Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO)	Myanmar
Christian Spiritual Youth Ministry-HUDUMA -MTANDAO	Tanzania
Confederacion Indígena Tayrona	Colombia
Comisión Jurídica de los Pueblos de Intergración Tawantinsuyana (COJPITA)	Perú
comunidad indígena aymara de challallapo	Chile
Comunidad Indígena Aymara de Chulluncane	Chile
Comunidad Indígena Aymara Umirpa	Chile
Community of the Ainu Indigenous Peoples	Russian Federation
Community of the Nivkh Indigenous Peoples "Vagis"	Russian Federation
CONACHA	Brazil
CONAMI	Mexico
Concilio Taino Guatu Ma Cu A Boriken	Puerto Rico
Confederación Indígena Empresarial y Comunidades Locales de México CIELO	México
Congrès populaire Coutumier Kanak	Nouvelle-Calédonie
Consejo de Organizaciones Aborigenes de Jujuy	Argentina
Consejo de Pueblos y Organizaciones Indigenas Evangelicas del Ecuador	Ecuador
Consejo Inerprvincial de Administracion de Justicia Indigena	Ecuador
Coordinadora Andina de Organizaciones Indiegnas CAOI	Peru
Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indigenas Campesinas y Comunidades Interculturales	Bolivia
Coordinadora mujeres pueblos originarios	Chile
Dana Cooperative	Jordan
Desarrollo Intercultural Chile	Chile
ECo-Development	Bangladesh
El Pueblo Indígena Bubi de la Isla de Bioko	Ecuatorial Guinea
Elders Council of the Shor People	Russia
Elite Carib International	United States
Erstwhile Community and Business Forum	South Africa
Ethnocultural Association Elleyada	Russian Federation
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians	United States of America
Faasao Savaii Organisation a member of the Samoa Umbrella of NGOs.	Samoa
Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities	Nepal

FERIAAM	Peru
First Nations Environmental Assessment Technical Working Group	Canada
Formação Intercultural Indígena FAE/UFGM/Brazil	Brazil
Fondation Batwa	Belgique
Forum de Educação Especial dos Povos indígena da Bahia- FEIPIB	Brazil
Frente Popular 9 de Junio en Defensa de los Recursos Naturales Coyotepec	Mexico
Fundaciön Ecoturismo Ayamtai	Ecuador
Fundación Colombia Ambiental	Colombia
Fundacion Selva Verde - Amazonia Ecuatoriana	Ecuador
Futa Repu	Chile
Gáldu- Resource centre for the rights of indigenous peoples	Norway
Global Indigenous Women's Caucus, Idle No More & Defenders of the Land	Canada
Grand Council of the Crees	Canada
Griqua Royal House	South Africa
Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais - Bahia	Brazil
Guahan Coalition for Peace and Justice	Guam
HIV Community Link	Canada
Hul'q'umi'num Fisheries Society, GP, LP	Canada
Hul'q'umi'num-Gulf Islands National Parks Committee	Canada
I Fanlalai'an	Guam
INA (Māori, Indigenous & South Pacific) HIV & AIDS Foundation	New Zealand
Indian Law Resource Center	United States
Indigenous Allied Health Australia	Australia
Indigenous Bar Association	Canada
Indigenous Caucus for the World Council of Churches and The Indigenous Network of the Anglican Church of Canada	Canada
Indigenous Concerns Resource Center	Kenya
Indigenous Environmental Network	United States
Indigenous Peoples' Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation (IPMSDL)	Philippines
Indigenous Rights Centre	Canada
Indigenous Women and Children Foundation	India
Indigenous World Association	Canada
Institute for Asian Pacific Science Technology Research Cooperation (IAP)	Vietnam
Instituto Atxôhã	Brazil
Instituto Cultural e Econômico de Quixelô	Brazil
Instituto Ruhi, Colômbia	Brazil
Instituto Teribre	Brazil
International Indian Treaty Council	United States
International Native Tradition Interchange	United States
Interregional non-governmental organization "Centre for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North (CSIPN)"	Russian Federation
Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)	Denmark & Greenland, United States, Canada, Russian Federation
Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation	Australia
JacksonCountyCreeks.org	United States
K'amalb'ê Rech Tinamit Ixim Ulew,	Guatemala
Kahung	Bangladesh
Kahungunu ki Te Matau a Māui	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Karbi Human Rights Watch (KHRW)	India
Kene Me-Wu American Indian Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Agency	United States
Ketchikan Indian Community	United States
La Brique	Togo
Land is Life	United States
Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware (LITD)	United States
Linkup, NSW	Australia
Maasai cultural group	Kenya
Magadan Association of Indigenous Peoples	Russian Federation
Mandaean world congress	Germany
Mesa Indígena de Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Metis Nation of British Columbia	Canada
Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative	Canada
Moosomin First Nation, Saskatchewan	Canada
Movimento Associativo Indígena Payayá	Brazil
Movimento Bandeirante	Brazil
Movimiento de la Juventud Kuna	Panamá
Movimiento Generacional Continental Tawantinsuyo de Jovenes y Naciones Originarias	Bolivia
Movimiento Indígena Tawantinsuyo MIT-PERU	Peru
MROCHET	Bangladesh
Nación Awajún - Wampis (NAW)	Peru
Nacion Mayangna	Nicaragua
Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights	India
Nama Community Onseepkans	South Africa

National Congress of American Indians	United States
National Congress of Australia's First Peoples & Bunyah Land Council	Australia
National Council of Urban Indian Health	United States
National Indigenous Higher Education Network (Australia)	Australia
National Iwi Chairs' Forum	New Zealand
Native American Rights Fund	United States
Native Village of Wales	United States
Native Women's Coalition	United States
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association	Australia
Nepal Federation of Indigenous People (NEFIN)	Nepal
Nepal Indigenous Disabled Association (NIDA)	Nepal
Nepal Kirat Kulung Bhasa Sanskriti Utthan Sangh (Association of Nepal Kirat Kulung Language and Cultural Development)	Nepal
Neporendi	Australia
Network for Native Futures	United States
Network for Promotion of Agriculture and Environmental Studies	Ghana
Nga Kaitiaki o te Awa a Ngaruroro	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Nga Tirairaka o Ngati Hine	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Ngaachi Kumapinta Aboriginal Corporation	Australia
Ngati kahungungu, ruapani ki waikaremoana	Aotearoa/New Zealand
NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce	Australia
Nuyagi Keetoowah Society	United States
Oklahoma Indian Bar Association	United States
Ong rayouwan mata	Niger
Organización de Comunidades Indígenas de González Suárez	Ecuador
Organizacion de Defesa Awara Kuluene	Brazil
Organizacion Kuna de Madungandi	Panama
Organization of Indigenous Peoples in Suriname	Suriname
Pacific Voyagers	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Panaka Kunturkanki	Peru
Parbattya Protibondhi Kallyan Sangstha (PPKS)	Bangladesh
Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) (Chittagong Hill Tracts United Peoples' Party)	Bangladesh
Participo da Rede de Juventude Indígena - REJUIND	Brazil
Pastoralist Development Outreach Organization	Kenya
Perkumpulan Prodeelat	Indonesia
Pertenezco a la nacion Taina.	Puerto Rico
Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe of the Pokanoket Nation	United States
Ponlok khmer (People and knowledge of Highlanders-PKH)	Cambodia
Progotishil marma chattrra shomaj	Bangladesh
PRO-MOSKITIA	Nicaragua
Pueblo Kichwa Otavalo	Ecuador
Pueblo Kisapincha	Ecuador
Radio Yande	Brazil
Rádio Yandê, Rede de Cultura Digital Indígena e Raízes Históricas indígenas	Brazil
Red de Comunicadores Indígenas del Perú REDCIP	Peru
Red Earth Studio Consulting/Productions	United States
Red Paz Integración y Desarrollo	Bolivia
Regional Public Organization "Tuba Kalyk" (Tubalars)	Russian Federation
Religious Orders of Blood Cherokee Descendants: Wolf Society Confederation	United States
Résau National des Populations autochtones du Congo (RENAPAC)	Congo
Réseau Amazigh pour la Citoyenneté	Morocco
Reservacion taina de Kiskeya	Dominican Republic
Saddle lake Cree nation	Canada
Sami Nissonforum	Norway
Sámi Nuorra	Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden
Saponi Descendants Association	United States
Saude sem limites	Brazil
Secretariado Internacional de Pueblos Indígenas frente al VIH, la sexualidad y los Derechos Humanos	Perú
Skills for Nuba Mountains(SNM)	Sudan
Solomon association for human rights	Solomon Islands
Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition	United States
Southwest Native Cultures	United States
Stolen Generation Alliance	Australia
Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition, Inc.	United States
Sunuwar Sewa Samaj	Nepal
Suoma Sámi Nuorat	Finland
Tai Studies Center	United States
Taungya	Bangladesh
Tchendukua ici et ailleur	France
Te Runanga o Ngati Awa	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Te Runanga O Ngati Hine	Aotearoa/New Zealand

Te Rūnanga-ā-Iwi O Ngāti Kahu	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Te runanganui o Ngāpuhi nui tonu	Australia
Te Runanganui o Ngati Porou	Aotearoa/New Zealand
Teke-Humbu	Deomcratic Republic of Congo
The Sami Parliamentary Council	Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden
Timuay Justice and Governance	Philippines
Tlingit and Haida Central Council	United States
Tliongit/Haida	United States
Treaty Development Initiatives	United States
Tsi Tyonnheht Onkwawenna	Canada
Tuhono	New Zealand
Two Feathers International Consultancy	United States
Union Des Jeunes Autochtones Pour le Developpement Communautaire	Burundi
Unión de Comunidades Aymaras(UNCA-PERÚ)	Perú
Union Nationale du Peuple Kanak	New Caledonia
Union of Indigenous Peoples of Sakhalin	Russian Federation
Unissons nous pour la Promotion des Batwa	Burundi
United Confederation of Taino People	United States
United Religions Initiative	Canada
University of Bristol	United States
Utualii, Salelavalu, Sapapalii, Lago and Lalomanu villages	New Zealand
Wachiay Friendship Centre	Canada
Waubanowin Society\ Wabanaki Confederacy	United States
West Papua Interest Association	Indonesia
Wikwemikong	Canada
Wolakota - Tribe is Great Sioux Nation	United States
Wollotuka School of Aboriginal Studies, University of Newcastle	Australia
World Arakanese Organization	United States
World Parlament of Security And Peace	Brazil
Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council	Australia
Yashlar sedasi (Voice of Youth)	Ukraine
Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities, Nepal	Nepal
Yurumein Association for Rural Development	St. Vincent & The Grenadines