

QUESTIONNAIRE ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES/PFII

A) General information and background on your organization/institutions

(1) Please provide the name of your organization/entity and where it is based. Please also provide details on the objectives and goals of your organization.

Khoe-San Indigenous women in Action, based in Cape Town.

Objectives:

- The healing of generational trauma of organizational leadership, Indigenous women, their family and their community. And ultimately contributing to our country's National Coat of Arms
- Awareness raising of Khoe-San indigenous rights as per the United Nations policies.
- The preservation and practicing of Khoe-San indigenous practices.
- Preservation and teaching of our Khoe-San indigenous languages.
- Women development program development to support women into job creation
- Sustainable development through indigenous/ancestral lands.

(2) What is the total number of indigenous peoples in your country? Please also include official sources/references.

At this stage, there exist no official census data on the number of people identifying as Khoisan. The former UN Special Rapporteur, Rodolfo Stavenhagen during 2005 recommended their inclusion in a formal census.

(3) Which indigenous peoples/communities does your organization represent and/or work with?

We represent the Khoisan indigenous women. We work with most Western cape province based Khoisan organizations affiliated with the National Khoisan Council.

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

We had previous members who participated during 2007.

B) Recommendations of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

(5) Has the work of the Permanent Forum supported indigenous peoples? Please provide details with specific examples.

The Forum has provided a crucial platform to voice the concerns around indigenous peoples' issues. The National Khoisan Council presented their statement during 2013 at the Forum. It was an important milestone the Forum created for the National Khoisan Council to make a statement.

(6) Please provide information on any measures your organization has taken to strengthen the role and rights of indigenous women. Please also include information on any steps to address sexual and gender-based violence against indigenous women and girls, in particular in conflict situations.

- We support Khoisan indigenous women and their families in different ways. We've held a women's day function celebrating the role of women in our communities. We counsel and support Khoisan women and their families in conflict. We conduct several women's traditional ceremonies acknowledging women and their role in our communities. We also support a women's farming community in an area called Napier. They received a small piece of land which they use for subsistence farming. Our organization is supporting them in the running of this cooperative through self-sustainable methods.

(7) Please provide information on any projects or programmes your organization has taken to support indigenous youth. Please provide information on any action taken to (i) prevent self-harm and suicide, and (ii) facilitate the inter-generational transfer of traditional knowledge and histories among your peoples/communities.

We held a youth day in our rural area called Paarl. The purpose of the day was to raise awareness about our heritage sites and linking it with identity and our indigenous knowledge systems.

C) UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

(8) How has the situation of the indigenous peoples in your country evolved since the adoption of the UN Declaration in 2007? Has the adoption of the UN Declaration made a difference? Please include information in the matrix below.

Culture: Better

Education: No change

Environment: Better

Health: Improved

Human rights: Better

Socio economic Development: Better

Lands, territories and resources: Better

Participation in decision-making: Better

Law and Policy: Better

(9) Do you have any examples of good/best practice in implementing the UN Declaration? If so, please provide details.

The South African government has been doing very well in the promotion and protection of the Khoisan peoples' rights to their traditional knowledge associated with particular indigenous biological resources. The government is playing a very supportive role to this end.

Further, the South African government quite involved in our land reform processes in post-apartheid South Africa. They have started processes which includes the Khoisan. This policy development processes are looking at how available land could be identified for the Khoisan on par with other historically disadvantaged communities.

(10) What are the major successes as well as the remaining obstacles for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in your country?

The South African government is making a lot of progress. There are concerted efforts to engage the Khoisan much more than previously. In terms of resource and land rights, they are developing key policy frameworks. However the legislation formally recognizing the Khoisan as a cultural community and their institutions are still not enacted. This is one of the key remaining obstacles we hope will be addressed soon.

D) World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

(11) Has your organization been involved in any legislative, policy and/or administrative measures taken by the Government to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples? Please provide details.

We are involved in measures the government is taking to implement the rights of indigenous peoples in terms of various laws and policies, heritage, land, indigenous knowledge and arts & culture.

(12) Have any steps been taken or are planned to develop a national action plan or strategy on indigenous peoples? Please also include information on information sharing and capacity building to strengthen awareness and action to implement the UN Declaration.

The South African government is involved in various processes to address the Khoisan issues. It is a very important process being facilitated within the various ministries. Unfortunately it is not centrally coordinated as different ministries run it separately.

(13) The UN has recently developed a system wide action plan to promote improved support to Member States as well as indigenous Peoples themselves to achieve the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Please provide information on the involvement of your organization/peoples in any project activities/dialogues and/or events of the UN in your country to advance rights and opportunities for indigenous peoples.

See numbers 11 and 12

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

(14) Has your government consulted you in the national level implementation, review and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda?

We are consulted on various processes relating indirectly to the areas affecting the 2030 Agenda such as sustainable development, PIC, etc.

(15) Which goal/s of the 2030 Agenda are most important for your work and how you will engage in the implementation? Please describe any 2030 Agenda programmes, activities or other initiatives your organization is involved in at the community, national, regional or global level.

N/A

(16) Is your organization involved in the collection and dissemination of disaggregated data or culturally relevant data on indigenous peoples? Please mention if and how you work with National Statistical Offices to integrate the data in official reports for review of the 2030 Agenda?

N/A