UN Women’s submission to the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues’ Questionnaire

18 January 2016
**List of acronyms**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
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<td>CSW</td>
<td>Commission on the Status of Women</td>
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<td>FIMI</td>
<td>International Forum of Indigenous Women</td>
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<td>IASG</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues</td>
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<td>IPWDGN</td>
<td>Persons with Disabilities Global Network</td>
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<td>MIPY</td>
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<td>SDG</td>
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<td>UNDRIP</td>
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A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

i. Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.

The production of the UN-Women’s Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women crystalizes UN Women’s long standing commitment to indigenous women and serves as the organization’s first official frame of reference for bringing UN Women’s programming to scale in a coherent and consistent manner. The development of this Strategy is in fulfillment of the specific recommendation of the May 2014 (13th) Session of the UNPFII which calls on UN Women to finalize a roadmap with actions and outcomes for indigenous women and girls.1 This Strategy is also a commitment to the United Nations Secretary-General’s System-wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN-SWAP) as it outlines the principles, priorities, programmatic areas of action and a four part strategy for implementing the UN-SWAP. UN Women’s programming will be guided by seven inter-related principles: gender equality and the empowerment of women; collective and individual rights; free, prior and informed consent; inter-culturally; non-discrimination; participation; and self-determination, and use a four part strategy consisting of (1) increasing internal and external capacity, (2) strengthening accountability, (3) enhancing partnerships, and (4) mainstreaming indigenous women’s issues into existing programmes and developing specific programmes for indigenous women.

The Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women, along with UN Women’s ongoing work, also responds to other recommendations of the UNPFII. In the area of supporting and building capacity of indigenous women in Africa in order to empower them economically and socially as recommended at the 2013 (12th) Session2, the Strategy calls for partnering with indigenous women organizations when developing programmes on a range of issues such as combating violence, economic empowerment and participation in decision making at all levels. UN Women Tanzania works to economically empower pastoralist Maasai women by increasing their incomes through a revolving livestock project, and increasing women’s access to markets and information about livestock products. Towards including views of indigenous women and girls with disabilities, as called for in a recommendation of the 2012 (11th) Session3, the Strategy notes that particular attention is required for indigenous women with disabilities. Furthermore, UN Women’s meeting with members of IPWDGN in May 2016 explored ways to increase the inclusion and participation of indigenous women with disabilities in UN Women’s works and proposed a report on indigenous women with disabilities. In addition, UN Women co-organized a side event on the leadership role of women with disabilities at the 9th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in June 2016 to include the participation of indigenous women with disabilities.

The CSW has identified the empowerment of indigenous women as the emerging issue/focus area for its 61st Session in 2017 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) responding to the recommendation from the 14th (2015) Session4. The Executive Director of UN Women will join the Secretary-General in opening the next session of the UN Permanent Forum on

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Indigenous Issues on April 24, 2017 and plans to hold a comprehensive dialogue with the Forum to illustrate what the organization is doing in the field, responding to a recommendation from the 15th (2016) Session.5

In the area of reducing maternal mortality among indigenous women, as called for in a recommendation from the 15th (2016) Session6, UN Women Philippines supported national consultation on the “No home birthing policy” which prohibits traditional birth attendants who commonly assist indigenous mothers and is viewed by indigenous communities to be a violation of their cultural rights, tantamount to displacement and erosion of indigenous peoples knowledge, practices, values and spirituality related to reproductive, maternal and child care.

ii. What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency’s implementation of the Forum’s recommendation?

A number of enabling factors have facilitated UN Women’s implementation of the Forum’s recommendations. This includes: the comprehensive international legal and policy framework that articulates the collective and individual rights of indigenous women and girls7; UN Women’s mandate and the six programmatic priorities of UN Women’s Strategic Plan (2014-2017) which serve as catalysts and building blocks for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples8; active engagement with the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development and providing technical support and follow up to the outcome of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples that serve as entry points and opportunities to make positive change for indigenous women and girls; the commitment to coordination with other United Nations agencies, particularly as a member of the Inter Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG); global tools developed by UN Women as the global knowledge broker of gender issues (e.g. the global constitutional database); the existence of an extensive network of indigenous women civil society groups; and the ability of accessing available funding from Member States to work on the promotion and inclusion of indigenous issues in its policy, programming and coordination work.

iii. What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

UN Women acknowledges that there have been different levels of engagement in their programming regionally and at the country level in working on indigenous issues, with low engagement in the African and Arab states regions. Obstacles include: a lack of commitment to the issue by Member States; structural and legal barriers; and limited activity of indigenous peoples and indigenous women’s organizations in the countries. In some States where UN Women have programmes there is a wariness of using the terminology of ‘indigenous peoples’ or a confusion with the term ‘ethnic minority groups’ which can result in States’ legal frameworks not recognizing ‘indigenous’ as a specific rights bearing category, as noted by UN Women India MCO.9

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4 Six programmatic priorities in the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women Strategic Plan 2014-2017, Second Regular Session 2013: participation in decision-making at all levels; economic empowerment; ending violence; peace and security and humanitarian action; governance and national planning; setting of global norms and policies and standards on gender equality and women’s empowerment.
5 In India, while the designated Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Castes (OBCs), all identify themselves as ‘indigenous peoples’, the Government of India does not recognize ‘indigenous’ as a specific rights-bearing category. Its position is that after the departure of its colonizers, all Indians, including its tribal people, were considered indigenous to India. Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review – India (A/HRC/8/26), 23 May 2008. https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G08/136/54/PDF/G0813654.pdf?OpenElement

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B. System Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

1. Raising awareness of the UN Declaration

*Please provide information on any activities that raise awareness of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including key messages, advocacy and other media and outreach initiatives. Please provide information on publications, films, audio, material, maps, or other materials that feature or focus on the UN Declaration and on indigenous peoples. Please also provide links to the relevant websites and other sources.*

UN Women continues in its efforts at the global, regional and country level to raise awareness of the UNDRIP. Such activities focuses on developing key messages to promote and advance the rights of indigenous women; utilizing opportunities in speeches and statements of senior management and engaging prominent champions of indigenous women.

At the global level, UN Women is assisting the CSW in its upcoming 61st Session in 2017 in focusing on what is the Session’s emerging issue/ focus area, the empowerment of indigenous women. The Executive Director of UN Women will join the Secretary-General in opening the next session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on April 24 2017 and plans to hold a comprehensive dialogue with the Forum to illustrate what the organization is doing in the field. UN Women’s meeting with members of the Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN) in May 2016 explored ways to increase the inclusion and participation of indigenous women with disabilities. UN Women also published and disseminated a Research Brief on “Indigenous Women & the Women, Peace and Security Agenda” 10

At the regional level, UN Women has strengthened the advocacy capacities of indigenous women leaders and supported regional platforms, in part by engaging with prominent champions of indigenous women. The Regional Office of *Americas and the Caribbean* supported the III Regional Meeting of Indigenous and Afro-descendant Women Communicators held in Mexico City (October 2016) which strengthened their capacities to communicate effectively in different media and also resulted in the creation of the first news agency of indigenous and Afro-descendant women. The Regional Office also supported the organization of the VII Continental Meeting of Indigenous Women of the Americas held in Guatemala City (November 2015) whose objective was the empowering indigenous women to elaborate a global advocacy agenda to exercise their rights. Engaging with prominent indigenous women champions, the meeting was opened by Nobel Peace Laureate, Rigoberta Menchu Tum. It was attended by more than 300 indigenous women from more than 100 organizations from 23 countries as well as many UN agencies. The meeting adopted the Declaration “Ixim Ulew” (“Guatemala” in Mayan Language) which included key messages and recommendations on the eradication of violence against women by extractive industries in indigenous territories; the recognition of indigenous women’s contribution to the preservation of forests, water and other natural resources; the recognition of their individual and collective rights; the end of discrimination, racism and exclusion against indigenous women, youth and girls; the need to make visible gender, ethnicity and age in the national and international statistical systems, policies and financing. There were also some specific recommendations made to the United Nations, particularly requesting the UN Secretary General to ensure that indigenous women, youth and children are part of the Action Plans of the entire UN System; requesting UN Women and UNFPA to carry out a study on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum in relation to indigenous women,

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youth and children; and requesting the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee) to adopt a general recommendation on indigenous women. A Declaration of indigenous youth was also adopted which included as key messages, among others, the need to promote and ensure inter-generational exchanges and discussion among indigenous women and leaders; to ensure the sexual and reproductive rights of indigenous youth; to end sexual abuse, feminicide and unwanted pregnancies, the need to ensure financing in public policies that address the priorities and needs of indigenous youth, and their consultation and active participation in policy making processes.\footnote{See \url{http://ecmia.org/index.php/categorias-blog/149-lideresas-indigenas-de-america-llaman-a-detener-espirlal-de-violencia}.}

At the country level, UN Women, in collaboration with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) is undertaking a study on violence against indigenous women in **India** and **Uganda** to be completed by March 2017 which will contribute to the development of key messages regarding the multiple identities that women possess and to promote and advance the rights of indigenous women through understanding how these multiple identities affect the uptake of the UN Inter-Agency Essential Service Package for women and girls subjected to violence. UN Women **Nepal** supported the National Indigenous Women’s Forum (NIWF), which works with 42 out of the 59 indigenous groups identified by the government of Nepal, in the organization of the 8th Human Rights Magna Meet. The outcome was a 29 Point Declaration, a key lobbying document used by NIWF to raise awareness of the need to address the rights of indigenous women with the government, development partners and civil society. UN Women **Viet Nam**, in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF and relevant government agencies, organized a National Workshop on Child Marriage to raise awareness and address child marriages which was identified as one of the issues of concern among certain ethnic minority groups from a law and policy review to advance the rights of ethnic minority women and girls in Viet Nam.

UN Women **Mexico** worked with indigenous women in the framework of its advocacy strategy to end girl child marriage which included the adaption of communication tools and resulted in a radio campaign for community radios to prevent early union and girl marriages in ten different indigenous languages. UN Women **Mexico** also supported the II National Indigenous Women’s Congress to further position the National Political Assembly of Indigenous Women as a platform for articulation for networks in their advocacy efforts and national level agenda setting to promote and advance the rights of indigenous women through the adoption of an Action Plan. UN Women **Mexico** co-organized the 8th edition of the Meeting on Indigenous Women’s Access to Justice which brought together numerous indigenous women leaders to contribute to a deeper understanding on the crucial role of indigenous women and girls for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This included identifying and bringing in prominent champion, Tarcila Rivera, Quechua leader of Peru and President of International Indigenous Women’s Forum and UNPFII Expert, who emphasized the importance of international alliances in favor of indigenous women’s rights recognizing Mexico’s important role as a strategic ally in multilateral fora.

UN Women **Brazil** promoted the empowerment, social mobilization and political participation of indigenous gender advocates in the establishment of a national common agenda of Brazilian indigenous women to advance the rights of indigenous women. This national agenda was validated in a plenary of the XII Acampamento Terra Live in 2016, one of the main indigenous meetings in Brazil which brings together more than 1000 indigenous people annually. This included the production of 18 audio-visual materials that systematized demands from 24 states and 104 different indigenous peoples. UN Women in **Bolivia** has used the framework of the HeForShe Campaign to highlight a new masculinity through the production of videos to address a recent study in five indigenous villages that show in these cultures the same ‘hegemonic masculinity’ as in the western one. UN Women **India**, in implementing its Anti-Trafficking Programme, identified young survivors of trafficking and trained them as peer educators and organized them into youth groups to raise awareness, collect data and
prevent trafficking. In Jharkhand, UN Women’s implementing partner built a team of peer educators comprising 50 young girls from the indigenous/tribal community to train and reach out to adolescents and young girls, the groups most vulnerable to trafficking.

2. Supporting the implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level

i. Please provide information on the measures that have been taken by your agency, fund or programme to support national partners in reform and implementation of legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples including through joint programming. Please also include information on indigenous women in your responses.

UN Women has supported national partners in a number of countries in the reform and implementation of legal frameworks and policies to further the UNDRIP through a number of initiatives. In the Asia Pacific region, these initiative supported government agencies in the review of laws and policies as well as ensured indigenous women were consulted before legislative measures were put in place. UN Women Viet Nam supported the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs to conduct a law and policy review to advance the rights of ethnic minority women and girls in Viet Nam, focusing on five areas: education, gender-based violence, healthcare, gender equality within the family and land use rights. To further the effective implementation of these laws and policies, 300 relevant government officers, law and policy makers and gender advocates received training. In addition, a National Workshop on Child Marriage was organized in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF to advocate for a better coordinated multi-sectoral approach to address child marriage, a harmful practice among some ethnic minority groups that was highlighted during the law and policy review. UN Women Philippines supported rural and indigenous women’s groups in Mindanao in conducting policy dialogues with local government agencies as well as dialogues with indigenous community leaders, advocating around ancestral land and access to justice issues. It also supported national consultations on the ‘No home birthing policy” to further the view of indigenous communities as to the erosion of indigenous people’s cultural rights as well as lobbied for the monitoring of the legislation that directs all government offices to “set aside a minimum amount of five percent of their 1998 appropriations to be used for activities designed to address gender issues”. UN Women India is working with the National Commission for Women to develop a roadmap for action, as well as a legal and policy framework on the rights of women farmers with a focus on the most marginalized women, including indigenous communities. This roadmap will be based on a comprehensive analysis of existing provisions in law, policy and programmes, as well as on ‘good practices’. UN Women’s commissioned study on violence against indigenous women in India and Uganda will include a review of the broader roles of policies and the national planning/implementation apparatus. UN Women Nepal supported the development of a National Position Paper of Indigenous Women in 2015 to further the position of indigenous women in the impending Constitution. UN Women Samoa is supporting the monitoring and evaluation system for the Samoa Family Court and the Domestic Court. There are now over 600 files in the database which form the basis for the quantitative data analysis upon which future performance of the court can be based. The planned activities include holding four Family Law forums to raise awareness on the Family Law Act and providing clarity on family protection orders. Information regarding family protection orders will be translated into simple vernacular language to ensure better understanding by Samoans, indigenous peoples.

In the Americas and the Caribbean region, the initiatives focused on building the capacity of indigenous women’s organizations to advocate on legal and policy reform. UN Women Paraguay supports initiatives to incorporate a gender perspective into laws and policies that promote sustainable development and establishes mechanisms that promote the strengthening and economic empowerment of women, giving priority to rural and indigenous women. In particular, the programme enhances women’s political participation and leadership and mobilizes the organization of Indigenous Women in Paraguay (MIPY) regarding the adoption of the draft
Law on Gender Equality, including supporting them to present arguments to parliamentarians and the media in favour of a bill that includes measures for equal pay; and organizing workshops on the Parity bill. UN Women Mexico carried out a review exercise of the Mexican legal framework in order to assess how the principles of the UNDRIP are taken into account focusing on indigenous women’s rights and where legislation can be amended to better protect and ensure their rights which will be published in 2017. The office also worked with indigenous women on a strategy to end child marriage that has resulted in the legal harmonization of more than 20 Mexican states to establish the minimum age for marriage as eighteen without exceptions. UN Women Mexico supported the organization of the 8th edition of the Meeting on Indigenous Women’s Access to Justice which brought together numerous indigenous women leaders to identify specific action to address the design and implementation of gender sensitive public policies with an intercultural approach. UN Women Bolivia strengthened women’s leadership capacities in the construction field in municipalities where female workers are one hundred percent indigenous to engage in policy advocacy regarding labor rights, decent work and gender equality. In another region, UN Women Moldova supported the participation of girls in a regional ICT and related service fora with the view to advocate for evidence based policy making in the area of IT taking into account the needs of specific groups of women including women from ethnic minorities such as Romani women.

UN Women has address critical issues of discrimination affecting indigenous women and girls in processes related to the development of strategies and plans to further the UNDRIP through a number of initiatives. UN Women Bolivia supported the development of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) implementation action plans with the government and civil society. UN Women El Salvador supported the design of an action plan of the national gender policy on land tenure with a special focus on rural, indigenous and young women as well as provided technical assistance for an evaluation of the National Action Plan of Indigenous People. UN Women Guatemala supported dialogue spaces between state institutions and indigenous women organizations to develop joint strategies for transitional justice, peace building and conflict resolution as well as supported the leadership of rural and indigenous women in shaping strategies, policies and programmes that contribute to their economic empowerment.

UN Women continues to support the representation of indigenous women’s organizations in consultative mechanisms and platforms and build their capacities to meaningfully and effectively engage and participate. UN Women Mexico supported the II National Indigenous Women’s Congress by facilitating part of the participation of 80 women of 15 networks and strengthening the National Political Assembly of Indigenous Women as a platform for dialogue between indigenous women networks and government and international organizations. UN Women Brazil provided technical assistance to organize a National Forum of Indigenous Women. UN Women Philippines worked to increase awareness about CEDAW and strengthened capacities of indigenous women to advocate for their individual and collective rights.

UN Women in its work with international mechanisms has shared relevant information on the situation of indigenous women and facilitated interaction with relevant stakeholders. At the global level, UN Women co-organized a side event to the 9th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (June 2016) wherein indigenous women with disabilities participated entitled “Implementation of Global Development and Humanitarian Goals – the Leadership Role of Women with Disabilities”. At the country level, UN Women Mexico has strengthened capacities of gender equality advocates, including indigenous women’s organizations, to influence key international processes. UN Women has also contributed to the dissemination of recommendations and reports of international mechanisms. UN Women Regional Office in the Americas and the Caribbean supported and/or organized sub-regional and regional fora in preparation, implementation and follow-up to the Commission on the Status of Women,

Sustainable Development Goals, CEDAW and other gender equality and women empowerment related processes in the Latin American Caribbean region, including CSW 61 regional consultation, localization of SDGs processes and regional consultation on rural and indigenous women for the CEDAW Committee. UN Women has also supported civil society organizations to prepare shadow reports on the situation of indigenous women to human rights treaty bodies, including highlighting critical issues concerning indigenous women to the CEDAW Committee and Universal Periodic Review. For instance, UN Women Nepal supported the preparation of a comprehensive alternate report on CEDAW in which organizations focusing on indigenous issues took part in the drafting process. UN Women Guatemala provided expert guidance and technical support to Maya, Garifuna, Xinca, Mestizo and Ladino women preparing alternative reports on the status of women and indigenous women’s rights.

**ii. Please provide information on any support provided to Member States to mainstream the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 in national development plans and in the Common Country Assessment / United Nations Development Assistance Framework.**

At the regional level, UN Women Regional Office in the Americas and the Caribbean supported mainstreaming of indigenous women and Afro-descendent women’s priorities and concerns into programming, including through setting up of two working groups on indigenous and descendent women. UN Women Bolivia has supported the incorporation and mainstreaming of the gender approach in rural development programmes and will be drafting an economic empowerment programme for rural and indigenous women in the Amazonian area. UN Women Paraguay supported the participation of indigenous women of Paraguay in dialogues, construction of their own agenda, and interlocution with agencies of the United Nations System and state authorities. This involved holding two days of discussions in 2016, one day with indigenous women and the second day with the National Organization of Indigenous Peoples of Paraguay and representatives of the United Nations System in Paraguay. About 30 indigenous women from different regions and some 10 leading men participated. The results of these dialogues have been systematized and will be published in a book. This work was promoted by the Interagency Group on Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples. Participating in the dialogues were various agencies: UNHCR, UN Women, PAHO/WHO, UNDP, WFP and UNICEF. It identified proposals and areas of work in which UN agencies, in coordination with state institutions, can collaborate to promote the rights of indigenous communities. Among the conclusions were the promotion of equal participation of indigenous women in all areas, the recognition of women leaders by the State, and the need to build specific goals in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples and indigenous women for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in Paraguay.

**iii. Please provide information on any measures taken or planned to promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.**

UN Women Nepal hosted two meetings with the Resident Coordinator to which numerous women’s groups were invited, including a representative of the National Indigenous Women Forum, in order to provide the Resident Coordinator with a snapshot of the major issues facing women in Nepal.

3. **Supporting indigenous peoples’ rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

**i. Has your agency / organization taken any measures to incorporate indigenous issues into programming to implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?**
UN Women is continuing to mainstream indigenous women’s issues into all aspects of its programming by drawing on the experience and knowledge of indigenous women. At the global level, this work includes exploring ways to increase the inclusion and participation of indigenous women with disabilities in UN Women’s work with members of the IPWDGN. At the regional level, UN Women Regional Office in the Americas and the Caribbean supported mainstreaming of indigenous women and Afro-descendent women’s priorities and concerns into programming, including through setting up of two working groups on indigenous and descendant women.

At the country level, in the area of ancestral lands and territories and natural resources, UN Women Philippines supported rural and indigenous women’s groups in Mindanao in conducting policy dialogues with local government and indigenous community leaders on ancestral land and access to justice issues, in strengthening data collection on the situation of indigenous women, and launching an advocacy campaign on their rights to land, territories and natural resources against development aggression. UN Women Paraguay, UN Women Bolivia, the Fund for Gender Equality of UN Women supported, along with the European Union and OXFAM Paraguay, the holding of the “Cross-Border Encounter of Indigenous Women of the Great American Chaco” in Asuncion and Philadelphia (Chaco), organized by MIPY and co-organized by the Documentation and Studies Center - as part of the Mercosur Feminist Artication. The Gran Chaco Americano is an ecoregion of great environmental and cultural diversity that is distributed in four countries in the heart of South America. Participants included indigenous women from Brazil, Bolivia, Argentina and Paraguay. Three thematic axes were focused on: “Care, development and miti miti”. The concept of “miti-miti” refers to parity in participation. In the area of programming to ensure traditional knowledge, intellectual property, intangible heritage and cultural expression, UN Women Philippines supported a national consultation on the “No home birthing policy” to address the concern of an erosion of indigenous people knowledge, practices, values and spirituality related to reproductive maternal and child care. UN Women Tanzania’s project on empowering pastoralist Maasai women focuses on expanding access to land, property and natural resources by economically empowering indigenous women through the establishment of village community banks, supporting women-led and owned revolving livestock projects and securing certificates of communal right of occupancy.

There has been a focus on mainstreaming of indigenous women’s issues in the area of administration of justice and indigenous customary laws. UN Women Samoa is supporting the Monitoring and Evaluation system for the Samoa Family Court and the Domestic Court. There are now over 600 files in the database which form the basis for the quantitative data analysis upon which future performance of the court can be based. The planned activities include holding four Family Law forums to raise awareness on the Family Law Act and providing clarity on family protection orders. UN Women Solomon Island in its project on “Promoting women’s access to justice through increased legal aid for women” launched a research report on women’s access to justice “Seeking Redress: Challenges and Recommendations to increase Women’s Access to Justice in the Solomon Islands” and the development and dissemination of brochures on the Family Protection Order, especially in the outer islands and rural areas. UN Trust Fund supports the women’s organization MADRE and the local indigenous women’s organization Wangki Tangni in Nicaragua to reduce violence against indigenous women and girls in 63 Miskito communities of the Waspam municipality of RAAN with a focus on both the customary and statutory legal systems and applying a multi-faceted approach (e.g. awareness raising, training to change attitudes, legal advocacy, and capacity building of local stakeholders in customary justice system). UN Trust Fund supports Pragya in India which includes a focus on Panchayats (village councils); initiatives at the village level, which have included working with women’s groups and their leaders and building their capacity for self-help, while also gender-sensitizing the village councils and men and boys. UN Women India supported a project to liberate, rehabilitate and empower 10,000 women manual scavengers through strengthening their economic and political rights.
There has been significant focus on mainstreaming of indigenous women’s issues in the areas of ending violence against women and girls. UN Women Viet Nam and UN Women Mexico both had initiatives that addressed child marriages, a harmful practice which significantly harms indigenous girls. In Viet Nam, UN Women organized a workshop in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF and relevant government ministries and in Mexico, UN Women worked with indigenous women in advocating to reform the laws. UN Women’s study on violence against indigenous women in India and Uganda, set to be completed by March 2017, will improve knowledge of how multiple identities of women effect service delivery systems for women and girls subjected to violence. UN Women Trust Fund supports the National Organization of Indigenous Peoples in Columbia to document and conduct research on violence against indigenous women, raise awareness among community and relevant authorities, train indigenous women as advocates of indigenous women’s rights and provide psycho-cultural, social, legal and psychological support to indigenous women survivors and their families. UN Women Trust Fund supports Mayan indigenous women in Guatemala by providing support to the Women’s Justice Initiative (Iniciativa de los Derechos de la Mujer) to improve access to justice and domestic violence support services in 18 rural communities in the municipality of Patzún as well as providing support to Fundacio Sida i Societat with the aim to prevent and reduce sexual violence against sex workers by strengthening institutional capacity and coordination of organizations working on violence against women and HIV, promoting sex workers access to justice and raising awareness among clients and sex workers through peer education. An inter-institutional coordination and referral network is planned and which will be a means to increase access to health, legal and social services for survivors of violence. UN Trust Fund is supporting a project conducted by Red Nacional de la Mujer, in Peru which seeks to reduce gender-based violence against older women who were victims of conflict-related violence by developing participatory needs assessments, awareness and training workshops and communication campaigns, all articulating the focus on rights, inter-culturalism, gender and aging. The project also seeks to raise awareness of local authorities and advocacy for gender and age-sensitive public policies for past and present violations of women’s rights. UN Trust Fund supports Pragya in India which aims to address violence against ethnic minority women by addressing deep-rooted gender norms in tribal societies, and by seeking to empower tribal women in 10 districts across five states. It also aims to create more gender-responsive support structures for addressing violence against women in the target areas, focusing on state/institutional structures such as Panchayats (village councils) as well as working with local civil society organizations for protection and response. UN Women India’s Anti-Human Trafficking Program worked with young survivors of trafficking and trained them as peer-educators and organized them into youth groups to raise awareness collect data and prevent trafficking in their communities. In Myanmar, UN Trust Fund supports ActionAid Myanmar in a project aimed to improve service-delivery, with a special emphasis on promoting access to justice through the provision of legal aid services for rural women. A key focus is the capacity-development of youth leaders and young people at the community level and the establishment of creative strategies around partnerships, including with the private sector and the media, at national and community levels. This also includes a participatory community-based research study as a means to feed into the ongoing consultation process for the development of the National Anti-Violence against Women legislation and draft disability law.

In the area of women, peace, security and humanitarian action, UN Women produced a research brief on “Indigenous Women and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda” which highlights the contributions made by indigenous women to the agenda of women, peace and security and the innovative approaches to conflict prevention and justice. It covers approaches for justice for conflict-related violence, such as indigenous women’s participation in Truth Commissions, application for reparations and using the criminal justice systems as well as topics of natural resources, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. In the area of climate change, UN Women Paraguay supported active participation of two indigenous women speakers at a workshop on Environment, Gender and Climate Change organized by the Secretariat of Social Action and the Environment Secretariat.
UN Women promotes the representation of indigenous women in civil society advisory groups at country levels. UN Women Paraguay worked to integrate active participation of two indigenous women in the Civil Society Advisory Group. UN Women Nepal developed the capacity of 180 excluded women, which include indigenous women to advance women’s economic empowerment by developing women’s capacities to participate, represent and take leadership in local decision making processes. UN Women Brazil’s “Voice of Indigenous Women” project promotes the leadership and strengthens indigenous women’s capacity to take up decision-making and power positions including within civil society spheres. This allowed for a group of 24 women leaders to collect information from 105 peoples from indigenous communities all over Brazil which contributed to the first common agenda of Brazilian indigenous women.

UN Women continues to collaborate with relevant mechanisms created to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and contributes to the coordination and technical efforts of the Inter-Agency Support Group. UN Women’s Executive Director will join the Secretary-General in opening the next session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on April 24 2017. UN Women will be chairing the Inter Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues in 2017.

ii. Have indigenous peoples participated in programs, projects or any other activities related to the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? Please also include information on indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth in your response.

UN Women Nepal involved the National Indigenous Women’s Forum in their advocacy programmes and consultations related to CEDAW, Sustainable Development Goals and Gender and Disasters. It further supported the National Indigenous Women’s Forum to organize the 8th Human Rights Magna Meet, which outcome document, a 29 Point Declaration, included recommendations on setting of goals for SDG to ensure 50-50 participation of women and men by 2030. UN Women Viet Nam and UN Women Mexico worked on the issue of ending girl child marriage in line with target 5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

UN Women co-organized a side event on the 9th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (June 2016), wherein indigenous women with disabilities participated, entitled “Implementation of Global Development and Humanitarian Goals – the Leadership Role of Women with Disabilities”.

iii. Please include information on reports or other documents prepared by your agency on progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples. Also include information on any measures taken or planned to gather or assist with the collection of statistical data on indigenous peoples, in particular as related to the SDG indicators for target 1.4 (secure tenure rights to land), target 2.3 (income of small-scale food producers), target 4.5 (parity in access to education) and target 10.3/16.b (experience of discrimination).

UN Women in the Philippines and Nepal’s project “Indigenous Women’s Global Leadership School: Capacity Building and Political Empowerment in Asia” includes data collection (violence against women documentation), advocacy (through the CSW, UNPFII, national and local level) and capacity building of 813 indigenous women in two countries. The trained participants documented the violation of human rights cases; 285 cases of violence against indigenous women were officially documented in the Philippines and 100 cases in Nepal. UN Women Philippines supported rural and indigenous women’s groups in Mindanao that are involved in strengthening data collection on the situation of indigenous women. UN Women study on violence against indigenous women in India and Uganda is in progress.
UN Trust Fund supports the women’s organization MADRE and the local indigenous women’s organization Wangki Tangni in Nicaragua to reduce violence against indigenous women and girls, in part by improving their capacity to document and collect evidence to ultimately create stronger cases to present to the judicial system. The increased knowledge on leading effective advocacy campaigns allows for an increased regional and national awareness on the issue of violence against women and girls and for indigenous women to demand accountability for ensuring their rights. UN Women Brazil strengthened indigenous women’s organizations to develop and apply new methodologies such as the systematization and validation of collected data on the main social problems and demands from indigenous women in Brazil. Through a collective constructed methodology, a group of 24 ‘multipliers’ collected data in indigenous villages and political meetings.

4. Mapping of existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP

i. Please provide information on any specific standards and guidelines on indigenous people adopted or planned by your agency / organization.

UN Women will be releasing the Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women to address the intersection of ethnic and other status in its organizational programmes. As part of this Strategy, UN Women will make all its resources related to indigenous women available for this mapping process. It will also undertake a rapid assessment on the extent to which other internal resources take account of indigenous women’s issues.

ii. Please provide information on any training materials prepared or planned related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.

UN Women Paraguay supported the second edition of the Human Rights, Food Security and Nutrition Program, led by the FAO and the International Forum of Indigenous Women (FIMI), developed in El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay and aimed at indigenous women leaders and human rights activists. Part of this program includes online learning through FIMI’s virtual platform or other electronic means and topics covered include nutrition and food security as well as the international human rights instruments of Indigenous Peoples. UN Women supported the training during the first face-to-face phase in Paraguay, which took place from 5 to 9 September, with the participation of 25 women leaders from different regions of the country. It contributes to this stage in strengthening the networks of organizations at the national level and increasing knowledge on food security and nutrition and international human rights instruments on indigenous peoples and women. UN Women supported the content organization of this stage and was also a teacher on the subject of international human rights instruments of indigenous women.

UN Women Mexico works in alliance with the Judicial Power and the National Institute of Women on promoting indigenous women’s access to justice, by enhancing an on-line course on gender and intercultural perspectives in justice administration. In 2016, this work focused on the systematization of this learning platform in a publication to be disseminated amongst justice providers and decision makers. Dialogue has also taken place to ensure the institutionalization in the Judicial Power’s regular training portfolios. UN Trust Fund supports the women’s organization MADRE and the local indigenous women’s organization Wangki Tangni in Nicaragua to reduce violence against indigenous women and girls, in part by training and creating a human rights advocacy manual.

iii. Please provide information on current resources and funds allocated to effectively implement the UN Declaration. Please also provide information on any joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the implementation of the UN Declaration.
UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women currently invests US$ 2.5 million to support seven projects in six countries to end violence against indigenous women and girls. This includes in Columbia supporting the National Organization of Indigenous Peoples’ work in promoting measures to prevent and respond to violence perpetrated against Kankuama indigenous women. In Guatemala supporting the Women’s Justice Initiative (Iniciativa de los Derechos de la Mujer) to improve access to justice in rural communities and Fundacio Sida i Societat to prevent and reduce sexual violence against sex workers, who are mostly young, indigenous migrant women. In Nicaragua supporting MADRE and Wangki Tangni to make both the customary and statutory legal systems adequately function for those trying to access justice and to empower women and girls to seek justice. In Peru supporting Red Nacional de la Mujer seeks to reduce gender-based violence against older women who were victims of conflict-related violence. In India supporting Pragya aims to address violence against ethnic minority women by addressing deep-rooted gender norms in tribal societies, and by seeking to empower tribal women. In Myanmar supporting ActionAid in Myanmar which focuses on improving service-delivery, with a special emphasis on promoting access to justice through the provision of legal aid services for rural women.

UN Women is not able to provide the precise amounts spent on indigenous women’s issues. Based on readily available data, it can report that Country Office programmes have allocated the following resources and funds toward activities targeting indigenous women:

**Bolivia**
- Developing of CEDAW implementation action plans - $39,569
- Indigenous women’s political empowerment in construction - $269,166

**Brazil**
- Strengthening capacities of gender advocates including Afro-descendent and indigenous women - $92,654
- Increasing availability and accessibility of quality and culturally appropriate services to indigenous women subjected to violence - $107,394

**Chile**
- Promoting the leadership and economic participation of indigenous women - $177,120

**Columbia**
- Developing local pilot initiatives for economic and social empowerment with emphasis on indigenous women - $30,164
- Monitoring and following up to First Summit of African Descent Leaders - $2000

**El Salvador**
- Designing of a national action plan on land tenure with special focus on indigenous women - $5000
- Evaluating the National Action Plan of Indigenous People - $50,000

**Guatemala**
- Trainings to promote civic and political participation of indigenous women - $53,000
- Developing indigenous adolescents capacities - $125,000
- Supporting the preparation of alternative reports on indigenous women’s rights - $18,000
- Facilitating multi-level debates ensuring participation of indigenous women - $22,000

**Mexico**
- Strengthening capacities of gender equality advocates, including indigenous women’s organizations: $123,361
- Improving legislation, policies and strategies to guarantee women’s rights, with special attention to rural and indigenous women - $720,720
- Enhancing capacities of indigenous women entrepreneurs - $200,959

**Philippines**
- Improving work conditions for marginalized groups of women, including indigenous women - $304,000

**Philippines and Nepal**
- Indigenous women’s global leadership school - $250,000

**Paraguay**
- Incorporating gender perspective into laws, plans, policies - $541,000

**Tanzania**
- Empowering pastoralist Maasai women - $390,001

**AC-RO**
- Conducting qualitative research in 5 selected countries to map the situation of women’s land rights - $235,000
Promoting and advocating for improved working conditions in Central America - $500,000
Supporting regional fora - $45,000
Supporting mainstreaming of indigenous women’s priorities and concerns into programming and normative processes - $25,000
Supporting follow up to indigenous women’s continental meeting in countries - $25,000
Training and support to strengthen advocacy capacities of indigenous women leaders - $1400

UN Women continues to work collaboratively with other UN agencies. At the regional level, UN Women Regional Office of the Americas and the Caribbean worked with OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF and FAO in supporting the organization of the VII Continental Meeting of Indigenous Women of the Americas (Guatemala City, November 2015). At the country level, UN Women Paraguay participated in two working days of dialogue with indigenous women’s organizations along with UNHCR, WHO, UNDP, WFP and UNICEF. UN Women Paraguay also worked with FAO on strengthening capacities of indigenous women on human rights, food security and nutrition. UN Women Viet Nam worked with UNFPA and UNICEF in organizing a national workshop on child marriage.

5. Developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel

Please provide information on any capacity development initiatives that your organization is conducting for indigenous peoples, government officials and UN staff. Also include information on the participation of indigenous women, children and youth as well as indigenous persons with disabilities in your response.

UN Women has supported initiatives to ensure the capacity development of indigenous women in a number of areas. In the area of capacity building for economic and social empowerment, UN Women in the Philippines and Nepal are engaged in capacity development of an indigenous women’s global leadership school which has involved capacity building of 813 indigenous women and 197 indigenous men in these two countries to use international human rights tools / instruments to analyze their status as women and as indigenous peoples and to engage in different levels of decision making especially at the community and national levels. This project also enhanced knowledge of stakeholders including international policy-makers on indigenous women rights and the challenges they face in the Philippines and Nepal. In Nepal this has also included capacity building of rural indigenous women in food and nutrition security, livelihoods and women’s human rights. UN Women Paraguay strengthened capacities of indigenous women in Paraguay on Human Rights, Food Security and Nutrition. This involved supporting the second edition of the Human Rights, Food Security and Nutrition Program, led by the FAO and FIMI, developed in El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay and aimed at indigenous women leaders and human rights activists. UN Women Chile supported leadership and economic participation of indigenous women by providing evidence on the situation and needs of indigenous women regarding their economic empowerment and productive development. UN Women Bolivia has drafted an economic empowerment programme for rural and indigenous women in the Amazonian area of the country as well as supported indigenous female construction workers in training to increase their practical skills to engage in policy discussions about labour rights, decent work and gender equality. UN Women Mexico has enhanced capacities of rural and indigenous women entrepreneurs to advance their interests at the local level. UN Women Tanzania is working to foster entrepreneurship by building capacity of pastoralist Maasai women to actively participate in decision-making around community development.

In the area of capacity building of indigenous women in political participation, UN Women Mexico supported the capacity of the National Political Assembly of Indigenous Women in their advocacy efforts and generating platform dialogue with government and international organizations. UN Women Brazil strengthened the capacities of gender equality advocates including Afro-descendent and indigenous women to promote women’s
rights, leadership and political participation with a racial perspective. UN Women Colombia trained indigenous women and indigenous communities that focused on the rights of women. UN Women Guatemala delivered trainings to promote the civil and political participation of indigenous women with local and national entities as well as trainings to develop indigenous adolescent’s capacities at the local level. UN Women Paraguay signed an agreement with the organization of indigenous women to conduct discussions and debates around development models and care systems, as well as provided advocacy and lobby workshops to indigenous domestic workers who were able to effectively present their arguments to parliamentarians and the media in favor of a bill for parity including equal pay measures. UN Women Regional office of the Americas and the Caribbean provided training and support to strengthen advocacy capacity of indigenous women leaders.

UN Women has also supported initiatives to build the capacity of government officials. UN Women Viet Nam, as part of its activities on ethnic minority women, focused on the capacity building of nearly 300 government officials, law and policy makers and gender advocates to increase their awareness and knowledge about the situation of ethnic minority women and girls and relevant international human rights standards. UN Women Brazil has strengthened capacities of health, social services, justice, and police providers to increase the quality of multi-sectoral services to women and girls subjected to violence. UN Women Colombia trained indigenous authorities to address problems related to gender-based violence. UN Women Regional Office of Americas and the Caribbean disseminated a knowledge product on access barriers for indigenous women to comprehensive health services for HIV responses for implementation by states. UN Women Bolivia strengthened the capacity of state participation in relevant international fora. As part of the UN Women Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women, UN Women will contribute to existing UN capacity-building initiatives such as induction and mandatory trainings of UN staff by ensuring the integration of issues affecting indigenous women.

6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes

Please provide information on any support provided for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at relevant UN bodies. Please also provide information on any consultative mechanisms, tools and other measures to obtain free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.

UN Women has supported a number of initiatives globally, regionally and at the country level which aims at increasing participation of indigenous women to ensure their full and effective participation in a number of intergovernmental UN processes. At the global level, UN Women co-organized a side event to the 9th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (June 2016). At the regional level, UN Women the Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific supported the Asia Indigenous Women’s Network and co-organized the programme-sponsored side events as well as a convenor of the indigenous women’s caucus in the CSW and UNPFII processes. This included the side event: Don’t Kill Our Future – Indigenous Women in Asia beyond Beijing at the CSW 59th (2015) Session where three indigenous women from the project presented situations of indigenous women experiences of discrimination and violence in Philippines and Nepal and illustrate the link between gender and human rights violations against indigenous women versus their vision for sustainable development. UN Women also supported another side event at the UNPFII 14th (2015) Session where three indigenous representatives from the project presented statements informing the initial results of the documentation on violence against indigenous women in the Philippines and Nepal and hosted side event “Indigenous Women Securing Life, Land and Culture”. UN Women Regional Office of Americas and the Caribbean supported a regional consultation on rural and indigenous women for the CEDAW Committee and the CSW regional consultation.
At the country level, UN Women Mexico strengthened capacities of gender equality advocates, including indigenous women’s organizations to influence key international processes (Cairo+20, Beijing +20, Durban+15, Post-2015 Agenda, World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and CSW Annual Sessions). For example, UN Women Nepal supported the participation of indigenous women in the CEDAW Committee review processes, assisting indigenous women groups in the drafting process of a comprehensive alternative report to the CEDAW Committee. UN Women Guatemala supported the participation of official delegations and women human rights defenders organizations in high level global meetings, ensuring equalitarian participation and representation of indigenous women.