

UN PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES (UNPFII)

23rd Session

April 2024

Information Guide



Outline

This document is intended to provide an overview of the 23rd UNPFII session to all Indigenous delegates. It summarizes the most relevant general information on the Permanent Forum and provides specific practical information about the current session and Docip's services. Additionally, a list of useful documents and contacts may be found at the end of the factsheet.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Mandate

The **UNPFII** is an **advisory body to the Economic and Social Council** with a specific mandate on Indigenous issues related to **economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights**. It is one of three UN bodies dedicated to Indigenous Peoples, the other two being the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

According to its mandate, the Permanent Forum:

- ② **Provides expert advice and recommendations** on Indigenous issues to the Council, as well as to programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations, through the Council.
- ② Raises awareness and promotes the integration and coordination of **activities related to Indigenous issues within the UN system**.
- ② Prepares and **shares information** on Indigenous issues

It is a special forum used by **Indigenous delegates to network**, and to meet key actors such as other organizations, United Nations agencies, donors, representatives of Member States, NGOs, etc. The sessions also provide an opportunity to raise awareness, to inform and to share concerns with all the different actors on Indigenous Peoples' issues.

The first meeting of the Permanent Forum was held in **May 2002**. The Permanent Forum has since held **annual two-week sessions in New York**. In 2018, Forum members made changes to the structure of the UNPFII.

For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/docip-unpfii-en>

Members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 2023-2025

- The Permanent Forum is composed of **sixteen independent experts**, functioning in their personal capacity, who serve for a term of three years as Members and may be re-elected or re-appointed for one additional term.
- **Eight** of the Members are **nominated by governments** and **eight** are nominated **directly by Indigenous organizations** in their regions.
- The Members nominated by Indigenous organizations are appointed by the President of ECOSOC and represent the **seven socio-cultural regions** determined to give broad representation to the world's Indigenous Peoples.
- The regions are: **Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean; the Arctic; Central and Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific**—with one additional rotating seat among the three first listed above.

Indigenous members nominated and appointed by President of ECOSOC (8):

Mr. Geoffrey Roth (United States)
Ms. Valentina Vyacheslavovna Sovkina (Russian Federation)
Ms. Hanieh Moghani (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Ms. Naw Ei Ei Min (Myanmar)
Mr. Darío José Mejía Montalvo (Colombia)
Ms. Hannah McGlade (Australia)
Ms. Aluki Kotierk (Canada)
Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim (Chad)

State-nominated and elected by ECOSOC (8):

Mr. Vital Bamberze (Burundi)
Ms. Tove Søvndahl Gant (Denmark)
Mr. Ali Hajilari (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Mr. Keith M. Harper (United States of America)
Ms. Li Nan (China)
Mr. Suleiman Mamutov (Ukraine)
Mr. Bornface Museke Mate (Namibia)
Mr. Rodrigo Eduardo Paillalef Monnard (Chile)



If you wish to get in touch with them, please contact the UNPFII Secretariat at:
indigenous_un@un.org

The 23rd session of the Permanent Forum

The 23rd session of the UNPFII will be held from **Monday, 15 April, to Friday, 26 April, 2024** at the **United Nations Headquarters in New York, entrance on 1st Avenue at E. 47th Street.**

The theme of this session is **“Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth”.**

This session will address the implementation of the six mandated areas of the PFII with reference to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP): **1) Economic and Social Development, 2) Culture, 3) Environment, 4) Education 5) Health and 6) Human Rights.**

In addition to the six mandated areas, the Forum will also address cross-cutting topics such as: **The World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, Gender and Indigenous women, Children and Youth, The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Indigenous Peoples within the 2030 Agenda,** among others.

Usually, during the first week, Indigenous delegates, Member States and UN entities may read their **statements** after having registered on the speakers’ list for each item, or they may choose to participate in **interactive dialogues**. During the second week, members of the Forum hold **closed dialogues** with UN agencies and States, as well as regional meetings with Indigenous representatives. This year, **public sessions are also scheduled for Monday and Tuesday of the second week.**

Provisional Agenda of the 23rd Session of the Permanent Forum¹

1. **Election** of officers.
2. Adoption of the **agenda** and organization of work.
3. **Discussion** on the **theme** “Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth”.
4. **Discussion** on the **six mandated areas** of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. **Dialogues:**
 - (a) Dialogue with **Indigenous Peoples;**
 - (b) Dialogue with **Member States;**
 - (c) Dialogue with the **United Nations** agencies, funds and programmes;
 - (d) **Human rights** dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022);
 - (e) **Regional** dialogues;
 - (f) Dialogue on **Indigenous platforms** established within United Nations entities;
 - (g) **Thematic dialogues**, including on the financing of Indigenous Peoples’ work and participation in the context of, inter alia, development, climate, environment and biodiversity.
6. **Future work** of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues.
7. **Provisional agenda** of the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum.
8. **Adoption of the report** of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-third session

¹ The official agenda of the UN, available at: <https://undocs.org/E/C.19/2024/1>

Indigenous Peoples' Caucus meetings: participation is strongly recommended

The Caucus presents a unique opportunity for Indigenous delegates to meet and exchange information and experiences. During the Caucus sessions, joint statements, positions and recommendations are put together concerning agenda items of the Permanent Forum session or on other topics.

➤ The **Global Caucus Meeting of Indigenous Peoples** will take place before the 23rd Session of the PFII, on **April 13 & 14**, 2024 from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm** at the following address:

**Church Center for the United Nations,
2nd Floor**
777 UN Plaza, at the corner of First Avenue and
E. 44th Street
(the entrance is on 44th Street)

***Docip will provide interpretation services in English, Spanish, French and Russian.**

➤ The **Indigenous Women's Caucus** will take place on **April 12, 2024** from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm** at the **Church Center for the United Nations**. Docip will provide interpretation in **English and Spanish**.

➤ The **Global Indigenous Youth Caucus** will take place **April 14, 2024** from **10:00 am to 2:00 pm** at the **Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, 1 E 42nd St**. **Daily meetings** will take place at 8:30 am throughout the Forum; the meeting room will be made available when possible, **address tbd**. Docip will provide interpretation in **English, Spanish, French, and Russian**.

*The discussions held during the Caucus meetings are **confidential**.*

Invitations and Provisional Agenda:

Global Indigenous Peoples Caucus: <https://bit.ly/pfii23-gipc-en>

Global Indigenous Women's Caucus: <https://bit.ly/pfii23-giwc-en>

Craft Fair: <https://bit.ly/pfii23-fair-en>

B. PRACTICAL GUIDE

1. What does the Permanent Forum DO?

- It makes **recommendations and prepares reports** for the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and for the United Nations system.
- It **raises awareness** and promotes the integration and coordination of **Indigenous issues** within the UN system.
- It **prepares and shares information** on Indigenous themes.

2. What does the Permanent Forum NOT DO?

The Permanent Forum **does not provide quick and immediate** answers to specific questions.

****Please note****

The Permanent Forum is not a complaint mechanism. Human rights situations/violations in a specific country, region or community can be mentioned during an agenda item, but your speech should include one or more recommendations.

3. How do I PARTICIPATE in the Permanent Forum?

For **practical information** concerning pre-registration, visas, accreditation, accommodations, obtaining badges, and grants to cover travel costs, please see: <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii/23rd-session>

4. How do I register to organize SIDE EVENTS?

Official side events (workshops, panel presentations or roundtable discussions) on the UN premises take place between **1:15 pm and 2:45 pm** or during closed sessions. They can be organized by Indigenous delegations, international organizations, NGOs, etc.

The list of **official side events** will be available on the UNPFII website. A translated list in English, Spanish, French and Russian will be available on our UNPFII agenda <https://bit.ly/docip-pfii23-prog-en> and at our technical secretariat office.

It is necessary for organizers to register side events well in advance (**February 29, 2024**) and to stay informed about the programme of events through the Permanent Forum's website <https://bit.ly/unpfii23> or through **Docip's website/newsletter**.

The UNPFII also publishes a list of **side events outside the UN** premises. There is no deadline to register for this list, but the organizers need to be registered at the session and the event must be thematically related to the session. You can register your event on the official session page: <https://bit.ly/unpfii23>

5. How do I participate in INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES?

- See the interactive dialogues' agenda items in the **Programme of Work**: <https://undocs.org/E/C.19/2024/L.1/Rev.1>
- Interactive Dialogues are **open to everyone**. For certain agenda items there is no pre-established speakers' list. Observers can request the floor at the beginning of each session by raising their hand and pressing the microphone button. Interventions should be limited to three minutes or less.
- At the **beginning of each agenda item during plenary sessions**, the Chairperson will announce the **speaking procedures and time limits**. To participate in an interactive dialogue, listen to the information provided on how to sign up (for example, you may be asked to raise your hand or to press your microphone button or to go to a desk designated for this purpose). The Chairperson's staff may ask you for your name and organization.
- There are **no written statements for interactive dialogues**. You are **not supposed to read** a prepared statement, but to contribute freely to the discussion.

6. HOW do I make an oral statement on an agenda item?

- During each session, the Permanent Forum discusses items that are on its **Agenda**. This session's agenda is available at <https://undocs.org/E/C.19/2024/1>
- To learn when the various agenda items will be discussed, please check the **Programme of Work** of the current session, available at <https://undocs.org/E/C.19/2024/L.1/Rev.1>
- According to changes in the organization of work, there are now two speaking procedures:

1) Register in advance on the speakers' list

2) Participate in the interactive dialogues

- For agenda items requiring in-advance speakers' list, all individuals registered to the Permanent Forum except those in academia may sign up for the speakers list in person in **Conference room E** (please check the time slots for registration, which are published several days before the Forum).
- **Confirm that you are registered** on the list. When the list of speakers for the chosen agenda item is posted in the meeting room, check that your name is listed there.
- Before making your statement, you may be asked to **provide copies of your statement** to the UN Secretariat so that the statement can be given to interpreters.
- Please, also **email your statement** to documentation@docip.org as **Docip** collects statements to publish on its database and website: <https://bit.ly/STATEMENTS-UNPFI>
- Finally, when your name is called by the Chairperson at the session, **raise your hand, turn on the microphone, state your name and the organization** on whose behalf your statement is delivered. Read your statement within the allotted time.

7. TIPS for making an oral statement

Important: If you are NOT in the room when the Chairperson calls your name, you will lose your speaking time. Please be seated in the conference room well in advance of your allotted time.

- **Collective/joint interventions with multiple co-signatories are encouraged.** It is therefore imperative to include the recommendations adopted at your Caucus meetings with other Indigenous delegates.
- The **purpose of the statement** is to make recommendations concerning the agenda item on which you speak.
- The **speaking time limit** is usually **3 minutes**, but it can be reduced by the Chairperson if there are too many speakers on the list for an item. **Confirm** beforehand how much time you have for your statement and plan accordingly. Remember that you must **speak clearly and slowly** so that your statement can be interpreted simultaneously.
- **Contents of the statement:** The statement should begin with the name of your organization and, if you wish, brief greetings. Then, explain the situation you are facing briefly and concretely, followed by 1 to 3 specific recommendations. Use information that has been verified since Member States could follow up on your statement. Note that participants may make a statement on behalf of the organization under which they are registered or jointly with other organizations.
- **Practice in advance** by reading your statement aloud to make sure that you are well within the time limit. Plan which parts you could delete in case the time limit must be reduced instead of trying to speed up the reading. You could also check with the Secretariat to see if it is possible to read a short version of your statement, but submit a longer written version of it for the record.
- Use **diplomatic and non-abusive** language.

8. Docip's support during the UNPFII

Docip offers the following services to all Indigenous delegates throughout the conference:

Docip's office at the UN building

For access to photocopiers, computers, printers, session documents and general information, go to Docip's office, located in **Conference Room B**, First Basement, Conference Building, UN Headquarters.

**Docip's Technical Secretariat will be open
15-26 April 2024,
from
9 am to 6 pm**

Translation and Interpretation

In line with its primary mission, which is to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous representatives in United Nations conferences and at other events dealing with issues affecting them, Docip offers interpretation services in four languages: English (EN), Spanish (SP), French (FR) and Russian (RU). Docip adopts an equitable approach and provides rates of compensation for interpreters depending on the financial means of each organization.

- **Document translation request:** <https://near.tl/docip-translation>. Alternatively, you can send us an email at: translation@docip.org

- **Interpretation request of caucus sessions and informal meetings:** services@docip.org
- **Interpretation request for your Side Event:** <https://bit.ly/INTERPRETATIONS-UNPFII23>

New service offered for UNPFII23: Proofreading of Statements

If you would like some assistance with proofreading your statement (spelling, grammar, linguistic clarity, etc.), please send your request to: translation@docip.org

Advocacy Support

Docip provides legal and advocacy support to Indigenous delegates on UN and EU mechanisms and procedures (legislative process, civil society consultations, calls for proposals, etc.) through services including but not limited to:

- Legal and advocacy actions to be taken,
- Accessing key actors (UN agencies, Permanent Missions, experts, delegates and organizations) as well as key elements of UN/EU agendas,
- Networking,
- Legal review of statements/communications/reports,
- Raising awareness of EU decision-making members to involve them in Indigenous issues in order to make these issues an EU priority.

To request legal and advocacy support, please contact our Advocacy Officers at advice@docip.org or set up an in-person meeting at Docip's office.

Information Service

You can find timely information on the session, documents, side events, etc. on **Docip's website:** <https://bit.ly/docip-pfii23-en>, **Facebook:** [@docip.org](https://www.facebook.com/docip.org), **X:** [@docip_en](https://twitter.com/docip_en), **LinkedIn:** [@docip](https://www.linkedin.com/company/docip)

For more information contact us at: info@docip.org

Documentation Centre

Docip collects all the statements delivered by Indigenous delegates during the UNPFII which are then are published on our website: <https://bit.ly/STATEMENTS-UNPFII>

Please, remember to send a copy of your statement to documentation@docip.org to be published in Docip's database alongside all other statements made by Indigenous delegates during the UNPFII.

9. Advice for effective participation in the Permanent Forum

- **Plan** the handling of all the administrative procedures and formalities (such as visas, registration and logistics) required to participate in the Permanent Forum **several weeks in advance**.
- **Study the agenda**, the programme of work and other documents related to the session.
- **Prepare** your oral interventions well.
- **Participate actively** in the Indigenous Caucus meetings at all levels (global, regional and thematic) and in as many side events, sessions, and networking opportunities as possible with other Indigenous delegates, NGOs, and key actors on Indigenous themes (experts, UN agencies, donors, Member States' representatives, etc.).

➤ Finally, **check the content of prior session reports** to ensure that your recommendation has been taken into account. The reports are published a few months after the sessions.

10. How do I get in touch with the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples during sessions of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the EMRIP?

The Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples has the mandate to **cooperate with the other two main UN bodies** working on the rights and issues of Indigenous Peoples, namely **the Permanent Forum and the Expert Mechanism**.

The SRIP and the EMRIP will be present during UNPFII and EMRIP annual sessions. To **meet with the Special Rapporteur and EMRIP experts** during these sessions, you have to:

- be registered to the session,
- make a timely request to meet, providing your contact information, and
- provide her/him with written information regarding matters that fall within her/his mandate, including allegations of human rights violations.

Priority will be given to delegates who have sent their request and their information to indigenous@ohchr.org within the time limit indicated on the OHCHR website, information that is also shared by Docip.

For more information on the Special Rapporteur and how to share information with her/him, please visit:

<http://bit.ly/1LsykvP> and <http://bit.ly/2FAs4aU>.

For more information on the Special Rapporteur, please visit:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-indigenous-peoples>

For more information on the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, please visit:

<http://bit.ly/expert-01E>

For more information about the Permanent Forum, see:

<https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii>

About Docip: Docip is a Swiss foundation, with offices in Geneva and Brussels, that has been working with Indigenous Peoples worldwide since 1978, facilitating their access to international and European institutions. Docip conducts its activities in accordance with the principles of impartiality, neutrality, and non-interference. We respect Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination.

Email: secretariat@docip.org

Website: <http://www.docip.org/en>

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/docip.org>

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Docip/20 March 2024



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Programme of Work UNPFII 23

	Morning slots (New York time)	Item	Afternoon slots	Item
Monday 15 April	10:00 – 13:00	Opening of the session Item 1 Election of officers Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	15:00 – 18:00	Item 4 Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Report of the international expert group meeting: Indigenous Peoples in a greening economy
Tuesday 16 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 3: “Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth”	15:00 – 18:00	Item 3 (continued): “Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth”
Wednesday 17 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 5 (g) Thematic dialogues, including on the financing of Indigenous Peoples’ work and participation in the context of, <i>inter alia</i> , development, climate, environment and biodiversity		
Thursday 18 April	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5 (a) Interactive Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples (closed meeting)		
Friday 19 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 4 (continued) Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5 (f) Interactive Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities
Monday 22 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 5 (d) Interactive Dialogue on Human rights with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022)	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5 (d) (continued) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022)

Tuesday 23 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 6 <i>Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues</i>	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5 (c) (continued) <i>Interactive Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programs</i> (closed meeting)
Wednesday 24 April	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5 (e) Interactive Dialogue <i>Regional Dialogues between Indigenous Peoples and Member States</i>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 15:00-16:15 – Central & South America and the Caribbean ● 16:30-18:00 – Africa 		
Thursday 25 April	10:00 – 13:00	Item 5(e) (continued) Interactive Dialogue: <i>Regional Dialogues between Indigenous Peoples and Member States (simultaneous)</i>	15:00 – 18:00	Item 5(e) (continued) – Interactive Dialogue: <i>Regional Dialogues between Indigenous Peoples and Member States</i>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10:00-11:15 – Central and Eastern Europe, the Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia. ● 11:30-13:00 – The Arctic. ● 10:00-11:15 – Asia. ● 11:30-13:00 – North America. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 15:00-16:15 –Pacific. ● 16:30-18:00 <i>Item 5(b) Dialogue with Member States</i> (closed meeting)
Friday 26 April	15:00 – 18:00	Item 7 <i>Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum</i> Item 8 <i>Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-third session</i>		

Relevant Background Documents

Here you can find a list of important and relevant documents **related to Indigenous rights** that can be useful to your work during the UNPFII.

The UNDRIP

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted by the General Assembly on Thursday, 13 September 2007.

Today, UNDRIP is the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. It establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous Peoples of the world, and it elaborates on existing human rights standards as they apply to their specific situation.

You can find the declaration here:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>

The outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

In 2014, the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples took place in New York in order to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The two-day conference included three roundtables and a panel discussion. The roundtable was held on the following topics:

- UN system action for the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Implementing the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national and local level
- Indigenous Peoples' lands, territories and resources

The panel's topic was: Indigenous priorities for the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

The World Conference produced an outcome document, which is available here: <http://bit.ly/outcome-document>

For more information visit the official website of the World conference:

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/69/meetings/indigenous/#&panel1-1> or <http://bit.ly/info-worldconference>.

The UN summary of the two days is available here: <http://bit.ly/summary-2days>

System-wide action Plan (SWAP)

At the [2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples](#), the General Assembly requested the development of a system-wide action plan for a coherent approach to achieving the ends of UNDRIP.

The SWAP covers six elements:

- 1) Raise awareness on UNDRIP
- 2) Support the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly at the country level
- 3) Support the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources within the United Nations system, international financial institutions and the members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues for the effective implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 5) Develop the capacities of States, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and United Nations personnel
- 6) Advance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in United Nations processes

For more details, visit: <http://bit.ly/info-SWAP>

The complete System-wide action plan (in all UN languages) can be found here: undocs.org/E/C.19/2016/5

The ILO Convention 169

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is responsible for the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), the only international treaty open for ratification that deals exclusively with the rights of Indigenous Peoples. As of 2024, the treaty has been ratified by 24 countries.

The ILO Convention 169:

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C169

For general information, visit: <http://bit.ly/ILO-indigenouspeoples>

The 2030 Agenda

➤ The United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015.

➤ The Agenda came into effect on 1 January 2016 with the intent of being carried out over the following 15 years. It is a broad and universal policy agenda, with 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated targets, which are described as integrated and indivisible.

➤ The report of the 16th Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has a dedicated section with recommendations related to the 2030 Agenda: <http://bit.ly/report-16thsession-agenda2030>

In contrast to the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals explicitly include Indigenous Peoples. Two of the SDG targets make specific references to Indigenous Peoples, committing to double agricultural output of Indigenous small-scale farmers and to ensure equal access to education for Indigenous children. There is also a strong commitment in the 2030 Agenda to empower and engage Indigenous Peoples in implementing and reviewing progress in achieving the goals.

A short introduction paper to Indigenous Peoples' Rights and the 2030 Agenda is available to download here:

[Briefing Paper on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and the 2030 Agenda](#).

For more information please visit: <http://bit.ly/PermanentForum-Agenda2030>

The resolution on Participation of Indigenous Peoples at the UN

On 8 September 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted, without a vote, a resolution titled, "enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them."

Resolution: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/321>

For more information please visit: <http://bit.ly/participationIP>

CEDAW General Recommendation 39 on the rights of Indigenous women and girls

In October 2022, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women issued General Recommendation 39 (CEDAW GR 39) on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls to provide guidance to States parties on legislative, policy, and other relevant measures to ensure the implementation of their obligations in relation to the rights of Indigenous women under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

General Recommendation 39 is the only form of international soft law that specifically protects the rights of Indigenous women and girls. It strengthens the normative framework of Indigenous Peoples' rights and represents a significant step forward in achieving gender equality.

Through this General Recommendation, the CEDAW Committee calls on States parties to take into consideration the challenging context in which Indigenous women and girls exercise and defend their human rights.

CEDAW General Recommendation 39 is available in different languages here:

https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolNo=CEDAW%2fC%2fGC%2f39&Lang=en

In its study on the Rights of Indigenous children, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recalled that Indigenous women and girls experience disproportionate rates of all types of violence, including sexual, domestic, gender and conflict-based violence, and those with disabilities are at even greater risk.

Concept note of the discussion available here: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/48/74>

The Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also reported in 2015 that Indigenous women and girls are three times more likely than non-Indigenous women and girls to face sexual violence in their lifetime. These forms of violence are widespread and often persist with impunity across the life cycle.

Report of the Special Rapporteur available here: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/30/41>

Bibliography

The following references are aimed at providing Indigenous delegates with a substantive set of background resources, useful in preparing their participation at the UNPFII.

1. UN platforms:

- [UNPFII 23](#) Official website and questionnaires filled out by UN Mechanisms (Available in ENG/SPA/FR/RUS)
- UNPFII 23 Program of Work (Available in ENG/SPA/FR/RUS): <https://undocs.org/E/C.19/2024/L.1/Rev.1>
- UNPFII 22 Report (Available in ENG/SPA/FR/RUS): [E/2023/43-E/C.19/2023/7](#)
- State of the World's Indigenous Peoples. (Available in ENG/SPA/FR/RUS), [SOWIP](#)
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