



English

Information Document on the

**Expert Mechanism on the
Rights of Indigenous Peoples
(12th Session of EMRIP)**

Geneva, 15-19 July 2019

Docip technical secretariat at the United Nations, Geneva

Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Docip coordination office: E-2060

Docip's office will be located in room E-2060 one level down from room in
Building E

**Indigenous delegates' office with access to computers and printers:
E-2064 and E-2066**

Overview

This document was created to familiarize Indigenous delegates with the current EMRIP session and related topics. It contains a summary of the most relevant information with regard to the 12th session and provides practical information about Docip's office and services available to all Indigenous delegates during the entire conference. Also, a list of reference documents and useful contacts is provided at the end.

Contents

The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)..... 3

 Mandate 3

 The 12th Session of EMRIP 3

 Provisional Agenda of the 12th Session of EMRIP 3

 Members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 4

 Current Membership of the Human Rights Council, 1 January-31 December 2019 5

EMRIP Working Methodologies 6

 Intersessional Activities: Expert Seminar and Intersessional Meetings..... 6

 Country Engagement..... 6

 Country Missions in 2018-2019 7

 Indigenous Peoples Preparatory Meeting (Caucus) 8

Relevant UN Background Documents 8

 UNDRIP 8

 Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples 9

 System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) 9

 ILO Convention 169..... 10

 2030 Agenda..... 10

 Resolution on Participation of Indigenous Peoples at the UN 10

Useful Phone Numbers and Contacts 11

Indigenous Peoples’ Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (Docip)..... 12

The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)

Mandate

The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) is a subsidiary body of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). The HRC was established in 2006 by the UN General Assembly and is the main UN intergovernmental body dealing with human rights. The Human Rights Council created the Expert Mechanism in 2007 under HRC Resolution 6/36. The Expert Mechanism meets once a year for five days.

According to its mandate, the Expert Mechanism will:

- Provide the Human Rights Council with expertise and advice on the rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the UNDRIP.
- Assist Member States, upon request, in achieving the ends of the Declaration through the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Expert Mechanism's new methods of work with respect to country engagement activities are set out on page 6.

The Expert Mechanism is one of three UN bodies that is mandated to deal specifically with Indigenous Peoples' issues. The others are the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (<http://bit.ly/UNPFII-UN-body>) and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (<http://bit.ly/SPRIP-UN-body>).

The 12th Session of EMRIP

Provisional Agenda of the 12th Session of EMRIP¹

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Study and advice on Indigenous Peoples' rights in the context of borders, migration and displacement.
4. Coordination meeting of United Nations indigenous rights mechanisms (closed meeting).
5. Intersessional activities and follow-up to thematic studies and advice.
6. Country engagement.
7. Panel discussion on indigenous women in power.
8. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
9. Future work of the Expert Mechanism, including focus of future thematic studies.
10. Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval.
11. Adoption of studies and reports.

¹ The official agenda of the 12th Session of EMRIP is available at: <http://www.undocs.org/a/hrc/emrip/2019/1>

The 12th session's theme is: "Efforts to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: recognition, reparation and reconciliation". More information on the current study is available here: <https://www.undocs.org/a/hrc/emrip/2019/3>

This session will also consider a study and advice on: "Indigenous Peoples' rights in the context of borders, migration and displacement". A draft of this report will be presented for discussion during the upcoming 12th session of EMRIP. A final version will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its forty-second session (September 2019). The concept note is available in [English](#) | [Spanish](#).

Monday, 15 July, from 15:00 to 18:00:

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of resolution 39/13 (<http://bit.ly/HRC-resolution-39-13>), the **Human Rights Council** will hold a half-day intersessional interactive dialogue on ways to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of the Human Rights Council on issues affecting them. As it is an HRC event, only NGOs with ECOSOC status may sign up on the speakers' list. Registration for the speakers' list for NHRIs and NGOs will open on 10 July 2019 at 14:00 (Geneva time), as per practice through the online system (<https://ngoreg.ohchr.org>).

For more detailed information on the 12th session of EMRIP, visit: <http://bit.ly/EMRIP-12thsession>

Members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The Expert Mechanism is composed of 7 independent experts, one from each of the seven Indigenous sociocultural regions, who are named for a period of three years, renewable once.

The regions are: Africa; Asia; Central and South America, and the Caribbean; the Arctic; Central and Eastern Europe; the Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific.

Members (2019-2020)	Members (2017-2019)
Ms. Kristen CARPENTER (USA) (2021)	Mr. Albert K. BARUME (DRC) (2021)
Ms. Megan DAVIS (Australia) (2022)	Ms. Kirsten CARPENTER (USA) (2021)
Mr. Belkacem LOUNES (Algeria) (2021)	Ms. Megan DAVIS (Australia) (2019)
Mr. Edtami MANSAYAGAN (Philippines) (2020)	Mr. Edtami MANSAYAGAN (Philippines) (2020)
Mr. Rodion SULYANDZIGA (Russian Federation) (2022)	Mr. Alexey TSYKAREV (Russian Federation) (2019)
Ms. Laila VARS (Norway) (2020)	Ms. Laila VARS (Norway) (2020)
Ms. Erika M. YAMADA (Brazil) (2022)	Ms. Erika M. YAMADA (Brazil) (2019)

The Chair of the Expert Mechanism is nominated annually at the start of the session. If you wish to get in touch with the Chair or with Expert Mechanism members, contact the Expert Mechanism Secretariat at: expertmechanism@ohchr.org.

Current Membership of the Human Rights Council, 1 January-31 December 2019

African States (13)	Latin American and Caribbean States (8)
Angola (2020)	Argentina (2021)
Burkina Faso (2021)	Bahamas (2021)
Cameroon (2021)	Brazil (2019)
Democratic Republic of Congo (2020)	Chile (2020)
Egypt (2019)	Cuba (2019)
Eritrea (2021)	Mexico (2020)
Nigeria (2020)	Peru (2020)
Rwanda (2019)	Uruguay (2021)
Senegal (2020)	
Somalia (2021)	
South Africa (2019)	
Togo (2021)	
Tunisia (2019)	
Asian-Pacific States (13)	Western European and Other States (7)
Afghanistan (2020)	Australia (2020)
Bahrain (2021)	Austria (2021)
Bangladesh (2021)	Denmark (2021)
China (2019)	Iceland (2019) **Iceland was elected on 13 July 2018 to serve as a member from 13 July 2018 to 31 December 2019 to fill the vacancy left by the United States following its decision to withdraw its membership
Fiji (2021)	
India (2021)	Italy (2021)
Iraq (2019)	Spain (2020)
Japan (2019)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2019)
Nepal (2020)	
Pakistan (2020)	
Philippines (2021)	
Qatar (2020)	
Saudi Arabia (2019)	
	Eastern European States (6)
	Bulgaria (2021)
	Croatia (2019)
	Czechia (2021)
	Hungary (2019)
	Slovakia (2020)
	Ukraine (2020)

EMRIP Working Methodologies

Intersessional Activities: Expert Seminar and Intersessional Meetings

In 2017:

The Expert Mechanism held an expert seminar and an intersessional meeting in Chile from 4-8 December 2017. The purpose of the seminar was to gather information for the study on free, prior and informed consent. This study was carried out by the Expert Mechanism under its mandate in resolution 33/25 and presented to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-ninth session (September 2018).

The study is available in all six official UN languages: [Free, prior and informed consent: a human rights-based approach](#).

In 2018:

The Expert Mechanism held a seminar in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 5-6 November 2018. The purpose of the seminar was to gather information for the study on Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Context of Borders, Migration and Displacement. This study is currently being carried out by the Expert Mechanism under its mandate in resolution 33/25 (2a), and a draft will be presented for discussion during its upcoming 12th session. A final version will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its forty-second session (September 2019). The concept note is available in [English](#).

Country Engagement

In 2017, during its tenth session, the Expert Mechanism adopted its methods of work on country engagement. These methods of work seek to operationalize the Expert Mechanism's new mandate under resolution 33/25 adopted by the Human Rights Council in September 2016.

The Expert Mechanism's new methods of work with respect to country engagement are set out in Annex I of its Annual Report (A/HRC/36/57), adopted at its tenth session. You can consult the report here: <http://bit.ly/Annual-ReportHRC-36-57>

Pursuant to paragraph 2 of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism should, upon request:

- (a) assist Member States and/or Indigenous Peoples in identifying the need for, and provide technical advice regarding, the development of domestic legislation and policies relating to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, as relevant, which may include establishing contacts with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
- (b) provide Member States with assistance and advice for the implementation of recommendations made at the universal periodic review and by treaty bodies, special procedures or other relevant mechanisms; and
- (c) engage and assist Member States, Indigenous Peoples and/or the private sector, by facilitating dialogue in order to achieve the ends of the UNDRIP.

The purposes of country engagement by the Expert Mechanism may include:

- provision of independent advice and recommendations;
- facilitation of dialogue between various stakeholders;
- independent observations of and advice on the implementation of laws and policies to implement the UNDRIP; and
- capacity-building and awareness-raising.

The Expert Mechanism may also support States in the implementation of recommendations made by other human rights mechanisms in relation to the human rights of Indigenous Peoples and may provide a deeper analysis of these recommendations.

Depending on the nature of the request, the modalities for country engagement may include: country missions; training activities for State institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders; video or audio calls; in-person meetings in Geneva or in other locations; email exchanges; formal communication through diplomatic channels.

States and Indigenous Peoples may **request the Expert Mechanism to engage at the country level**.

Country engagement may also include country missions by Expert Mechanism members at the request of States and/or Indigenous Peoples.

Requests from Indigenous Peoples should be submitted to the secretariat of the Expert Mechanism at the OHCHR via e-mail: expertmechanism@ohchr.org. For more information about the procedure for submitting a request, visit: <http://bit.ly/Country-engagement-Request>.

Country Missions in 2018-2019

To date, the Expert Mechanism has undertaken three country visits:

- Finland (February 2018, upon request of the Sámi Parliament of Finland): the purpose was to consider amendments to the Sámi Parliament Act. The EMRIP provided a technical advice note: <http://bit.ly/EmripAdvisoryNoteFinland>
- Mexico (March 2018, upon request of the Secretariat of Rural Development and Equality for the Communities –SEDEREC-): the mission focused on the provisions regarding Indigenous Peoples in the Constitution of Mexico City, which was adopted in January 2017. The Expert Mechanism will provide a technical cooperation note.
- New Zealand (April 2019, upon the request of the Aotearoa Independent Monitoring Mechanism): The purpose of the mission was to provide advice on the development of a National Plan of Action or other measure to achieve the ends of the UNDRIP in New Zealand. An advisory note on the development of this plan will be available soon.

Indigenous Peoples Preparatory Meeting (Caucus)

The Caucuses represent unique opportunities for Indigenous delegates to meet and to exchange information and experiences. During the Caucus sessions, joint statements, positions and recommendations are put together concerning agenda items of the EMRIP session or on other topics.

The Indigenous Peoples Preparatory Meeting will take place before the 12th session of EMRIP, on **14 July 2019**, at the following address:

La Pastorale (Swiss Press Club)
106, route de Ferney (Bus 5 - Intercontinental Stop)
1202 Geneva

Interpretation will be provided by Docip in English, Spanish, French and Russian. As soon as the agenda of the Caucus is available, it will be published here: <http://bit.ly/docip-emrip12-gipccp-en>

Relevant UN Background Documents

Please find below a list of relevant UN background documents **concerning Indigenous Peoples' rights**.

UNDRIP

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

Today, UNDRIP is the UN's 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>.

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 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The two-day conference included three round tables and a panel discussion. The round tables were held on the following topics:

- 1) UN system action for the implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- 2) implementing the rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national and local levels; and
- 3) 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-day conference 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 UNDRIP, 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 UN system, international financial institutions and the members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues for the effective implementation of UNDRIP;
- 5) Develop the capacities of States, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and UN personnel; and
- 6) Advance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in UN processes.

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

The complete System-wide action plan (in all UN languages) can be found here: <http://bit.ly/System-wide-action-plan>

ILO Convention 169

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is responsible for the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), the only international treaty opened for ratification that deals exclusively with the rights of Indigenous Peoples. To date, 23 countries have ratified it.

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>

2030 Agenda

- The UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015.
- The Agenda came into effect on 1 January 2016 with an intended 15-year timeframe. It is a broad and universal policy agenda, with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets, which are described as integrated and indivisible.
- The recent report from the 18th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has a dedicated section with recommendations related to the 2030 Agenda: <http://bit.ly/Report-UNPFII18>.

In contrast to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDGs 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>.

Resolution on Participation of Indigenous Peoples at the UN

On 8 September 2017, the UN 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". This resolution is available here: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/321>.

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

Useful Phone Numbers and Contacts

<p>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Palais Wilson 52 rue des Pâquis CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel: +41 22 917 9220 Email: InfoDesk@ohchr.org</p> <p>Civil Society Section Tel: +41 22 917 9656 E-mail: civilsociety@ohchr.org</p> <p>Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Email: expertmechanism@ohchr.org</p> <p>Mr. Paulo David Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section</p> <p>Mr. Juan Núñez Human Rights Officer</p> <p>Ms. Kate Fox Secretary Human Rights Committee</p> <p>Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples Tel.: +41 22 928 91 64 E-mail: indigenousfunds@ohchr.org</p> <p>Mr. Morse Flores Fellowship programme and Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples</p> <p>Ms. Inas Miloud Senior Indigenous Fellow indigenousfundseniorfellow@ohchr.org</p> <p>Mailing address: United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations OHCHR Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.</p> <p>Physical location: OHCHR - Motta 48 Giuseppe Motta 1202 Geneva</p>	<p>Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</p> <p>Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz Email: indigenous@ohchr.org</p> <p>World Council of Churches Tel: +41 22 791 61 11</p> <p>Ms. Katalina Tahaafe Williams Responsible of the Indigenous Peoples Unit Email: Katalina.Tahaafe.Williams@wcc-coe.org</p> <p>World Health Organization General: +41 22 791 21 11 Email: info@who.int</p> <p>Mrs. Claudia Quiros Gender, equity and human rights Email: quiroscla@who.int</p> <p>United Nation Institute for Training and Research Tel: +41 22 917 8400 Email: info@unitar.org</p> <p>Mrs. Trisha Riedy Manager of Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention Programme Tel: +41 22 917 85 77 Email: trisha.riedy@unitar.org</p> <p>International Labour Organization Project to Promote the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Tel: +41 22 799 7556 Email: PRO169@ilo.org</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organisation Defense of Indigenous Peoples Mr. Yon Fernandez-de-Larrinoa yon.fernandezlarrinoa@fao.org</p>	<p>The International Fund for Agricultural Development Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues Ms. Antonella Cordone Senior Technical Specialist Email: a.cordone@ifad.org</p> <p>United Nations Development Programme Mailing address : Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10 Physical location: 11-13 chemin des 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva Tel: +41 22 917 85 36 General : registry.ch@undp.org</p> <p>Mrs. Sara Sekkenes Conflict Prevention & Partnerships Advisor Email: sara.sekkenes@undp.org</p> <p>Patrick Gremillet Partnership Advisor, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction at UNDP Email: patrick.gremillet@undp.org</p> <p>Luisa E. Bernal Policy Specialist, Trade & Sustainable Development Email: luisa.bernal@undp.org</p> <p>World Intellectual Property Organization General: +41 22 338 91 11 Physical location: Chemin de Mon-Soleil, 1202 Genève</p> <p>Secretariat of the Traditional Knowledge Division General: grtkf@wipo.int</p> <p>Ms. Rebecka Forsgren Indigenous Fellow rebecka.forsgren@wipo.int</p>
--	---	--

Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (Docip)

Docip Office
 106 route de Ferney
 1201 Genève
 Suisse
 Tel: +41 22 740 34 33
 Email: docip@docip.org

During the 12th session of EMRIP, Docip's office will be located in Room E-2060

Docip Services during EMRIP	Contact
Translation of texts (English, French, Spanish, Russian)	Email: translations@docip.org
Interpretation (English, French, Spanish, Russian)	Ms. Johanna Massa Email: johanna.massa@docip.org
Documentation	Ms. Priscilla Saillen Email: priscilla.saillen@docip.org
Legal support	Mr. Andres Del Castillo Email: andres.delcastillo@docip.org
News and information dissemination	Mr. Pascal Angst Email: pascal.angst@docip.org
Publications	Email: publications@docip.org
Trainings	Ms. Claire Moretto Email: claire.moretto@docip.org
European Union mechanisms relating to Indigenous Peoples	Ms. Amalia Rodriguez Email: amalia.rodriguez@docip.org Mr. Mathias Wuidar Email: mathias.wuidar@docip.org
Contact Information of the Director	Mr. Rémi Orsier Email: remi.orsier@docip.org

With the support of:



The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of Docip and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of funding organizations.