**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

The Human Rights Council,

PP1 - *Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

PP2 - *Reaffirming* its support forresolution 61/295 of 13 September of 2007 of the General Assembly which adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

PP3 - *Reaffirming* resolution 69/2 of 22 September 2014 of the General Assembly which adopted the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in its implementation,[[1]](#footnote-1)

PP4 - *Bearing in mind* resolutions 6/36 of 14 December of 2007 and 30/11 of 9 October 2015 of the Human Rights Council,

PP5- *Recalling* that the Human Rights Council should be cognizant of the work being undertaken on indigenous issues by other bodies in the United Nations system,

1. *Decides* to modify the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall provide the Human Rights Council with expertise on the rights of indigenous peoples as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and assist Member States to monitor, evaluate and improve the achievement of the ends of the Declaration, with a view to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples;

2. *Decides* thatthe Expert Mechanism shall:

1. Prepare an annual report on the worldwide status for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration with a yearly theme or themes focused on particular articles of the Declaration and selected by the Expert Mechanism, taking into consideration suggestions received from Member States and indigenous peoples, and with a special focus on challenges and good practices from Member States;
2. Identify, disseminate and promote good practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of the Declaration, and offer general guidance concerning the provisions of the Declaration through its studies and research;
3. Upon their request, assist Member States and indigenous peoples, through the provision of technical advice and facilitation of assistance regarding domestic action plans, strategies, legislative frameworks and policies relating to the rights of indigenous peoples, including by establishing contacts with other United Nations actors and other relevant stakeholders;
4. Provide States, upon their request, support for the implementation of voluntarily accepted recommendations through the Universal Periodic Review and treaty bodies, Special Procedures and other relevant mechanisms, in close collaboration with National Human Rights Institutions;
5. Upon their request, engage with Member States, indigenous peoples, and other relevant stakeholders in order to assist them in facilitating dialogue in cases where specific challenges exist to achieving the ends of the Declaration.
6. Coordinate its work and further strengthen its participation, engagement and cooperation, as appropriate, with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other United Nations bodies and processes;

4. *Decides also* that the Expert Mechanism shall report annually to the Council on its work and keep the Council fully informed of developments on indigenous peoples’ rights, through meetings with its bureau and regional groups;

5. *Further decides* that the Expert Mechanism shall consist of seven independent experts reflecting each of the seven indigenous socio-cultural regions, the selection of which shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established in paragraphs 39 to 53 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007;

6. *Strongly recommends* that, in the selection and appointment process, the Human Rights Council gives due regard to the recognized competence and experience on indigenous issues, experts of indigenous origin, and gender balance;

7. *Also decides* that the members of the Expert Mechanism shall serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected for one additional period;

8. *Decides* that, within its mandate, the Expert Mechanism shall determine its own methods of work and gather information from all reliable sources, although the Expert Mechanism shall not adopt resolutions or decisions;

9. *Decides* that the Expert Mechanism shall meet annually for up to five days, and that the sessions may be a combination of open and private meetings, as deemed required;

10. *Also decides* that the annual meeting of the Expert Mechanism shall be open to the participation, as observers, of States, United Nations mechanisms, bodies and specialized agencies, funds and programs, intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and mechanisms in the field of human rights, national human rights institutions and other relevant national bodies, academics and experts on indigenous issues, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; the meeting shall also be accessible to indigenous persons with disabilities and open to indigenous peoples’ organizations and non-governmental organizations, whose aims and purposes are in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, based on arrangements, including Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, and practices observed by the Commission on Human Rights, through an open and transparent accreditation procedure in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, which will provide for the timely information on participation and consultation with States concerned;

11. *Decides* that the Expert Mechanism may also hold inter-sessional activities, as deemed required;

12. *Decides*, in order for the expert mechanism to enhance cooperation and avoid duplicating the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people and the Permanent Forum, that it shall participate in the activities of the Permanent Forum, invite the Special Rapporteur and a member of the Permanent Forum to attend and contribute to its annual meeting, and participate in the annual meeting of special procedures;

13. *Recommends* to the Special procedures of the Human Rights Council to coordinate with the Expert Mechanism their work with regard to the rights of indigenous peoples;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all necessary human, technical and financial assistance to the Expert Mechanism for the full and effective fulfilment of its mandate.

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1. A/70/84–E/2015/76. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)