

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: Questionnaire to National Human Rights Institutions

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was established by Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2000/22. The Permanent Forum is mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on indigenous issues to ECOSOC and through the Council to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes; to raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to indigenous issues with the UN system; and prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues.

At its sixteenth session, the Permanent Forum acknowledged the contribution of national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples, and welcomed their participation in future sessions of the Forum. Furthermore, the Permanent Forum encourages studies and reports by the national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of indigenous rights and invites those institutions to present their reports and studies in future sessions.

The report of the sixteenth session can be found at: <https://undocs.org/en/E/2017/43>

The secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites national human rights institutions to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned related to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The Secretariat also wishes to invite representatives from national human rights institutions to attend the 2018 session of the Permanent Forum that will take place from 16-27 April 2018.

The responses will be compiled into one report for the forthcoming session of the Permanent Forum in April 2018. All responses will be placed on the UN's website at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples>

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **1 January 2018** to:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
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The seventeenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **16-27 April 2018**.

The special theme of the 2018 session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be: **Indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources**.

Draft Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
4. Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
6. Dialogue with Member States.
7. Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system
8. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”.
9. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
10. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
11. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:
 - (a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies and other measures;
 - (b) Ways to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations;
 - (c) Implementation of the United Nations system-wide action plan on indigenous peoples.
12. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
13. Provisional agenda for the eighteenth session.
14. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its seventeenth session.

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In recent sessions, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has recognized and appreciated the active inputs of national and regional human rights institutions at its sessions and recognized their contributions in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples. The Permanent Forum invites human rights institutions to continue to contribute to its work and to provide information on their activities related to the following elements:

1. The 2017 session of the Permanent Forum featured a focus on indigenous human rights defenders. Please provide information on the work of your institution in relation to indigenous human rights defenders. What results have been achieved through such efforts and what are some lessons learned?
2. The theme of the 2018 session will be Indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources. Please provide information about indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources in your country. Has your institution been engaged in work relating to indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources?
3. What are the three to five main activities carried out by your institution at the national and/or regional level to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the principles contained therein?
4. What are the main constitutional, legislative and/or administrative developments taken or planned to promote and/or implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in your country? Has your institution been involved in these processes, and if so how?
5. Please provide information on any activities and programmes that your institution carries out or plans to that are specific to indigenous peoples.
6. Has your institution been engaged in work relating to the development or implementation of national action plans, strategies or other measures to achieve the ends of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples? If yes, then please provide information.
7. How does your institution address violence and discrimination against indigenous peoples and individuals, in particular women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities?

For more information on the UN Permanent Forum, please visit:
www.un.org/indigenous