



# **Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

**Report on the twelfth session  
(20-31 May 2013)**

**Economic and Social Council  
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## Chapter I

### **Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention**

#### **A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council**

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

##### **Draft decision I**

##### **International expert group meeting on the theme “Sexual health and reproductive rights: articles 21, 22 (1), 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”**

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme “Sexual health and reproductive rights: articles 21, 22 (1), 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”.

##### **Draft decision II**

##### **Venue and dates of the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum**

The Economic and Social Council decides that the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 12 to 23 May 2014.

##### **Draft decision III**

##### **Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session and provisional agenda for its thirteenth session**

The Economic and Social Council,

(a) Takes note of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum as set out below:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Special theme: “Principles of good governance consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: articles 3 to 6 and 46 (3)”.
4. Human rights:
  - (a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
  - (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.
5. Half-day discussion on the Asian region.

6. Half-day discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
7. Ongoing priorities and themes and follow-up:
  - (a) Indigenous children;
  - (b) Indigenous youth;
  - (c) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;
  - (d) Post-2015 development agenda.
8. Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds.
9. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including emerging issues.
10. Draft agenda for the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum.
11. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its thirteenth session.

#### **Draft decision IV**

#### **Change of name of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

The Economic and Social Council decides to change the name of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to the Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### **B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council**

2. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non governmental organizations assist in their realization.

3. It is the understanding of the secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

#### **Recommendations of the Permanent Forum**

##### **Health**

4. The right to health materializes through the well-being of an individual as well as the social, emotional, spiritual and cultural well-being of the whole community. Colonization, including policies of oppression, dispossession and assimilation, has led to the health challenges faced by many indigenous peoples today, which will also affect future generations. Consequently, the health of indigenous peoples is weakened by a range of underlying social and economic determinants, including poverty, inadequate housing, lack of education, food insecurity, lower employment, loss of traditional lands and languages, barriers to political participation and institutionalized racism. The health gap between indigenous peoples and others is clear evidence of the discriminatory structures that are in conflict with human rights and indigenous peoples' rights in particular. They demonstrate the need for Governments and United Nations entities to refocus their efforts in fulfilling their obligations towards indigenous peoples.



5. The Permanent Forum recalls the many recommendations that call for statistics on indigenous health. Data collection and disaggregation remain a challenge. In particular, the delivery of health care in rural and remote areas remains a major obstacle to the right to health. In addition, there remains an urgent need for more indigenous health professionals, mental health services and programmes addressing non-communicable diseases and reproductive health. In particular, the Forum reaffirms the recommendation of the eighth session that an expert group meeting on sexual health and reproductive rights be held.

6. Good practices are emerging that complement public health services with traditional health practices. These practices emphasize intercultural dialogue and discussion to ensure that health care is delivered in a culturally specific way, consistent with articles 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These practices should be supported and promoted.

7. In sexual health and reproductive rights there is a need for HIV-sensitive, gender-sensitive and age-sensitive sexual health education that respects cultural sensitivities in pre-testing and post testing conditions and delivery of services. The Permanent Forum recommends:

(a) That, in the design and implementation of its strategic plan for the period 2014-2018, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) take into consideration the rights of indigenous women and young people;

(b) That contributions be made to ministries of health and indigenous women's organizations to consolidate their work on intercultural standards for high-quality sexual health and reproductive rights and maternal health and to assess experiences of intercultural health models in other regions of the world in order to identify opportunities for South-South cooperation;

(c) That efforts be made to ensure the integration of indigenous peoples' rights into national and subnational strategies on gender-based violence and to promote the delivery of culturally acceptable critical services to address gender-based violence and sexual violence, with a focus on adolescents, youth, migrants and indigenous women with disabilities;

(d) That the United Nations country teams contribute to strengthening and integrating the rights of indigenous women and youth into national and subnational development strategies and sectoral plans, particularly but not exclusively in the areas of sexual health and reproductive rights and maternal mortality and morbidity, as well as in adolescent and youth policies and plans;

(e) That contributions be made to supporting work at the country level on the elimination of female genital mutilation/cutting among indigenous girls, including the elimination of other forms of harmful practices, for example early and forced marriage and early unwanted pregnancies;

(f) That efforts be made to promote the rights of indigenous youth at the regional and country levels, including their participation in the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 processes, and, where possible, their participation in UNFPA-led discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

8. The Permanent Forum reiterates its previous recommendations that address the alarming number of suicides among indigenous youth. The Forum encourages

community organization for safe spaces and low-threshold health services, respecting non-discrimination, in particular where discrimination based on ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation is concerned. The United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), should emphasize the provision of mental health services, with particular efforts to address suicide among indigenous youth.

9. The Permanent Forum requests WHO, in cooperation with indigenous health providers, to conduct a study on the prevalence and causes of suicide among indigenous youth and on efforts being made, including culture-based approaches, to prevent suicide and promote mental health and wellness. The Forum recommends that the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues and WHO organize an expert group meeting to review policies and best practices with regard to engaging indigenous youth on the prevention of suicide.

10. To draw more attention to diabetes and other non communicable diseases, the Permanent Forum recommends that WHO, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Governments develop action plans to improve access by indigenous peoples living with diabetes to health prevention and care of diabetes and non-communicable diseases. The Forum urges States to establish or reinforce community-based health programmes that empower and educate indigenous women and children to prevent and overcome diabetes and non communicable diseases.

11. The Permanent Forum requests WHO and PAHO to undertake a global study jointly with relevant indigenous peoples' institutions and indigenous health experts on the situation of indigenous peoples living with diabetes and non-communicable diseases to establish the international evidence base needed. The results of the study can be presented at the fourteenth session of the Forum and in appropriate processes within WHO and PAHO. Furthermore, the Forum calls upon the World Diabetes Foundation and the International Diabetes Federation to provide financial and technical assistance to WHO, PAHO and identified indigenous institutions that will conduct the study.

12. The Permanent Forum calls for heightened attention to be paid to diabetes and other non communicable diseases by WHO, PAHO and States, including at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in 2014, and calls upon these parties to discuss issues relating to indigenous health and formulate an action plan with particular focus on improving prevention and access to the care of diabetes and non-communicable diseases.

### **Education**

13. Indigenous peoples who maintain their cultural practices and lifestyles on the basis of their traditional knowledge, vision of the world and spirituality are confronted by educational systems that have little regard for indigenous cultures, indigenous languages and indigenous knowledge. In addition, evidence confirms that the most poor and indigenous peoples receive the poorest quality of education. It is well established that improved education outcomes have a positive impact on the well-being of indigenous peoples and contribute to better socioeconomic conditions. Access to high-quality education will better ensure the knowledge and skills necessary for improved quality of life.

14. The Permanent Forum affirms that articles 11 to 15 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provide a critical framework for ensuring the necessary transformative changes in indigenous education and the exercise of the right to self-determination. Indigenous peoples have the right to be involved in defining and developing educational priorities and initiatives, including laws, regulations and policies, which have a direct impact upon them. Such educational systems should respect, recognize and include indigenous peoples' world views, cultures, languages and traditional knowledge, while ensuring gender equality and the recognition of traditional knowledge-keepers as pedagogical authorities.

15. The Permanent Forum encourages States and United Nations agencies and funds to implement, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, proactive and substantive measures to realize the full and effective implementation of the rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These measures must include greater accessibility for indigenous learners who live in remote areas or in nomadic communities. The Forum calls upon States to respect and implement article 19 of the Declaration by ensuring the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that affect them.

16. Education in the mother tongue and bilingual education, foremost in primary and secondary schools, lead to effective and long-term successful educational outcomes. The Permanent Forum urges States to fund and implement the Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, specifically in the following education-related objective. The Forum underlines the need for States to respect and promote indigenous peoples' definitions of learning and education, founded on the values and priorities of the relevant indigenous peoples. The right to education is independent of State borders and should be expressed by indigenous peoples' right to freely traverse borders, as supported by articles 9 and 36 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

17. The Permanent Forum recommends, on the basis of articles 14 and 15 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, that States support indigenous peoples in establishing their own educational systems and institutions, including universities. Specific measures should be put in place to support indigenous, intercultural and community higher education institutions and programmes in their academic, organizational, financial and accreditation processes. An excellent example of best practices in this regard is the inclusion of compulsory indigenous studies in the curricula of higher education institutions. The Forum urges States to recognize the importance of the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative, launched during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012, and to incorporate the knowledge, history and proposals of indigenous peoples into the activities to be undertaken.

18. The Permanent Forum recalls the recommendations contained in paragraphs 48 and 56 of the report of the international expert group meeting on indigenous youth (E/C.19/2013/3), emphasizing that linguistic education and linguistic sovereignty are of fundamental importance to indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNICEF and other competent bodies of the United Nations convene, together with the Forum, a meeting of experts on intercultural matters and bilingual education.

19. Indigenous persons with disabilities face exceptionally difficult barriers both because they are indigenous and because they are disabled. The Permanent Forum recommends that States develop and provide full access to educational opportunities on an equitable basis and without discrimination for indigenous persons, as recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In particular, the Forum recommends that sign language education curricula be developed, in consultation with deaf indigenous persons, which reflect their cultures, issues, needs and preferences. Where there is State or international cooperation on education, indigenous persons with disabilities should be included. The Forum recommends that countries that have not yet ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities do so urgently.

20. The Permanent Forum recommends that States, in collaboration with indigenous peoples and United Nations agencies, including UNICEF and UNESCO, prepare a comprehensive report on the number of indigenous languages spoken in each State. It is important to identify the current numbers and ages of fluent speakers of each indigenous language, in addition to measures, including constitutional, legislative, regulatory and policy measures, as well as financial support, whether ongoing or project-based, by States, United Nations agencies and indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous languages continue to be used, survive and thrive and do not become extinct.

### **Culture**

21. The Permanent Forum recognizes culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development. Indigenous peoples have always recognized that the three pillars of sustainable development (economic viability, social inclusion and environmental balance) are not enough to reflect the complexity of indigenous peoples' societies. Indigenous peoples see the cultural pillar as encompassing the cultural and spiritual traditions of humanity.

22. Indigenous culture and tourism is often seen as a driver of growth and development for the economies and businesses of indigenous peoples, with indigenous peoples often trivialized and viewed solely as cultural icons and objects by others. The Permanent Forum therefore recommends that United Nations agencies, in collaboration with the indigenous peoples concerned, affirm and make operational the right of indigenous peoples to determine their own priorities for development and opportunities concerning indigenous culture and tourism.

23. The Permanent Forum welcomes the recommendations of the international expert workshop on the World Heritage Convention and indigenous peoples, held in Copenhagen on 20 and 21 September 2012, and the anticipated establishment by the World Heritage Committee of a consultative body on the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention during its thirty-seventh session, to be held in Phnom Penh from 17 to 27 June 2013, in order to consider, among others, revisions to the guidelines relating to the human rights of indigenous peoples, including the principle of free, prior and informed consent. The Forum recommends that UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee implement the Convention in accordance with the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, taking an approach based on human rights. The Forum members will endeavour to participate in the thirty-seventh session of the Committee, including the meetings of the consultative body on the Operational Guidelines, as observers.

24. The Permanent Forum encourages all States to endorse the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, considering the need to protect and enhance indigenous peoples' distinct identities and cultural institutions, philosophies and world views, customary laws, indigenous political governance and justice systems, indigenous knowledge systems and sustainable traditional livelihoods and other economic systems, as well as to rebuild in urban centres the cultures and communities of indigenous peoples displaced from their traditional territories. The Forum calls upon States to build on good practices to ensure, safeguard and protect indigenous knowledge and intangible heritage and to promote indigenous peoples' cultural expressions.

25. The Permanent Forum recommends that UNESCO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) work closely with indigenous peoples to develop an instrument to protect traditional knowledge and culture-based economic opportunities and activities as a potential way of strengthening the identities of indigenous peoples in order to contribute to gross domestic product growth, environmental protection and mutual appreciation of cultures.

#### **Half-day discussion on the African region**

26. The Permanent Forum welcomes the lively and analytical dialogue that emerged from the half-day discussion on the African region and encourages the United Nations Development Group to facilitate further dialogue between States and indigenous peoples at the African continental level to foster better understanding of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the commitments to indigenous peoples that Member States have made. Within this framework, capacity-building at the national level should be enhanced.

27. The Permanent Forum recognizes that groups identified as comprising indigenous peoples on the African continent have suffered, and continue to suffer, particular injustices, including the denial of their basic human rights, such as the right to recognition of their identity and status as indigenous peoples and the right to lands, territories and related resources. The Forum notes with concern that the land-based culture that characterizes indigenous peoples in Africa is often regarded as economically unviable, uncivilized and retrograde. Such views constitute a serious impediment to the enjoyment and fulfilment of the internationally recognized human rights of indigenous peoples.

28. The continuing denial of indigenous peoples' rights to lands, territories and resources, based upon various racist doctrines, theories and policies, including on lands occupied or otherwise used, historically and currently, by them, has led, among others, to their eviction from their lands and the erosion of their hunting and other traditional occupations and lifestyles, thereby threatening their very survival and well-being as peoples. It is necessary to ensure that bans, such as on hunting and other traditional livelihoods, do not infringe upon the rights of indigenous peoples.

29. The Permanent Forum recognizes that many positive developments regarding the recognition of indigenous peoples and the need to protect and promote their rights have occurred over the past years and welcomes the leading role of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities in Africa in recognizing indigenous peoples

on the African continent and promoting their rights. Several African countries have also contributed to the development of the recognition of indigenous peoples. The Forum notes with appreciation the ratification in 2010 by the Central African Republic of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Convention No. 169); the passage by the Congo of Law No. 5-2011, on the promotion and protection of indigenous populations, and the establishment of a legal platform to address the situation of indigenous peoples in the country; the constitutional progress in Kenya in 2010; and the introduction of quotas for the Batwa indigenous people in Burundi and Rwanda. The practice by African States of supporting indigenous peoples' rights is developing and should be encouraged.

30. While the concept of indigenous peoples in Africa has been conceptualized and adopted by African Union bodies, including at the Heads of State summits, there remains a need to raise awareness of indigenous peoples on the continent and for robust and effective measures, including legislative measures, to ensure recognition of and respect for their human rights. Likewise, while the rights of indigenous peoples have been supported in African courts and in decisions by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, gaps in implementation remain widespread. The Permanent Forum urges the concerned States to implement the decision of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, including in the *Endorois* case; the order of provisional measures of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in the *Ogiek* case; and the decision of the High Court of Botswana in the case concerning the Kalahari Game Reserve. These cases are important because they contribute to the development of jurisprudence on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

31. The Permanent Forum encourages States, multilateral environmental agencies and other conservation agencies to adopt a rights-based approach to conservation and follow-up and to systematically evaluate how the rights are implemented.

32. The Permanent Forum recognizes the particular concerns of African indigenous youth, who are striving against political, social and economic challenges, poverty, marginalization and a lack of capacity development and employment. The Permanent Forum calls upon, among others, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union, including the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to provide adequate capacity-building programmes and opportunities to enable African indigenous youth, women and persons with disabilities to engage meaningfully with States and other key development players, including by organizing and sponsoring attendance at training sessions, conferences and other forums on indigenous issues.

33. The Permanent Forum invites the agencies of the United Nations system, including UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in cooperation with the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to convene a workshop on African pastoralism, indigenous peoples' rights and climate adaptation.

34. The Permanent Forum calls upon States to ensure that national policies regarding indigenous pastoralism and hunter-gatherers comply with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

35. The Permanent Forum acknowledges that indigenous women in Africa face multiple forms of discrimination and several related challenges, including limited access to high-quality health care and sexual and reproductive health services; limited access to high-quality and relevant education; limited access to economic empowerment, vocational training and capacity-building programmes and processes; denial of or limited access to property rights and violation of their rights to inherit land; vulnerability to conflicts; gender-based domestic and other forms of violence; and food insecurity.

36. The Permanent Forum calls upon the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and other entities of the United Nations system to develop programmes and projects that support and build the capacity of indigenous women in Africa in order to empower them economically and socially. A good practice in this regard is strengthening the entrepreneurship of indigenous women and facilitating their access to formal markets and financial institutions for their activities. The Forum also encourages States to develop affirmative actions that are aimed at actively including indigenous women in decision-making at all levels and at ensuring that indigenous women's voices are equally represented in economic, social and political decision-making processes.

37. The high rate of indigenous children who are out of school requires urgent attention, in particular in respect of securing access by girls to high-quality and relevant education that respects the cultures and traditions of the communities and that is responsive to their needs. Given that many indigenous peoples live in regions that have been defined as geographically remote or inaccessible, and many services do not reach such indigenous and/or nomadic communities, there are also serious challenges regarding the long distances required to reach hospitals and health-care centres, which lead to higher maternal and infant mortality rates in indigenous communities. The Permanent Forum urges States to ensure that health and education services reach remote areas and meet the needs of nomadic peoples.

38. The Permanent Forum notes the increasing operational activity of extractive industries and other large-scale development projects, including land grabbing, which is taking place on or near the territories of indigenous peoples in many African States, often without the involvement of indigenous peoples and without their free, prior and informed consent. The Forum recommends that African States must respect the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in particular the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent.

### **Human rights**

39. During its twelfth session, the Permanent Forum held an extremely constructive dialogue with the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Chair of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Member States and indigenous peoples on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The recommendations below reflect issues that arose at the twelfth session that are of universal character or of an urgent nature.

40. The Permanent Forum acknowledges and accepts the study on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on challenges faced with regard to the full enjoyment of human rights and inclusion in development (E/C.19/2013/6). The Forum recommends that the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities pay special attention, and take immediate action to respond, to the situation of indigenous persons and peoples with disabilities and encourage the United Nations system to facilitate the translation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into indigenous and other languages.

41. The Permanent Forum is alarmed by the continuing acts of violence being perpetrated against indigenous peoples by Member States and others. The Forum therefore acknowledges the need for States to establish a monitoring mechanism to address violence against indigenous peoples, including assassinations, assassination attempts and rapes, and intimidation of indigenous peoples in their attempts to safeguard and use their homelands and territories that transcend national borders, including the non recognition of their membership identification and documents and the criminalization of their related activities. Specific attention must be paid to such actions being perpetrated by State and local police, the military, law enforcement institutions, the judiciary and other State-controlled institutions against indigenous peoples.

42. Extremely concerned about the physical and moral violence being perpetrated against indigenous human rights defenders, the Permanent Forum recommends that the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders prepare a report devoted to these alarming conditions and actions, especially in the context of indigenous women and children.

43. The Permanent Forum has received information that indigenous peoples who have established community means of communication, such as film-makers and radio hosts, are criminalized and prosecuted for such activities, especially in Latin America. In this regard, the Forum requests parliamentarians to establish legal frameworks that respect the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to end such practices.

44. The Permanent Forum welcomes the unprecedented judgement against Efraim Rios Montt for genocide and crimes against the Mayan Ixil peoples during the 1980s in Guatemala. The acknowledgment of the historical reality of the Maya Ixil and many other indigenous peoples may contribute to recognition of the genocide and other gross human rights violations perpetrated against indigenous peoples in all parts of the world and ultimately lead to reconciliation between indigenous peoples and States.

45. The Permanent Forum requests Member States to establish specific mechanisms at the national level in order to open and sustain dialogue between indigenous peoples and Governments to review the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the recommendations of the Forum. The Forum requests United Nations agencies at the national level to facilitate such dialogue and that corresponding national mechanisms be established.

46. The Permanent Forum welcomes the recent entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Forum encourages Member States to accede to the Optional Protocol and



requests the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to consider the preparation of a general comment on the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples.

47. The Permanent Forum takes notes of the recent publication of the adolescent-friendly version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by UNICEF, the Forum and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus. The Forum recommends that UNICEF, Member States and indigenous peoples translate this publication into all languages, in particular indigenous languages. The Forum also recommends that Member States, indigenous peoples and others use this publication in the curricula of studies of indigenous and non-indigenous youth.

48. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation to ILO to accommodate and guarantee the direct participation of indigenous peoples' organizations in ILO procedures, in particular those relating to compliance with the ILO Convention concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-Tribal Populations in Independent Countries (Convention No. 107) and the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Convention No. 169) and their corresponding supervisory mechanisms. The Forum reiterates its call upon Member States to accede to the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Convention No. 169).

49. Recalling the recommendations made in paragraphs 4 to 11 of the report on its tenth session (E/2011/43-E/C.19/2011/14 and Corr.1) and the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum expresses alarm regarding the contemporary application of the erroneous and discredited "doctrine of discovery" and its underlying assumptions, which promote the purported inferiority of indigenous peoples. This doctrine was applied in June 2012 by the British Columbia Court of Appeal to deny the land rights and title of the Tsilhqot'in to their traditional lands and territories by stating that "European explorers considered that by virtue of the 'principle of discovery' they were at liberty to claim territory in North America on behalf of their sovereigns". The Forum strongly recommends that States, human rights bodies and judiciaries denounce the "doctrine of discovery" and discontinue its use and application.

50. The Permanent Forum requests that Member States and other potential donors increase their contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership and the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues in order to guarantee the exercise of the right of indigenous peoples to participate in United Nations meetings of specific concern to them.

51. The Permanent Forum recommends that all Governments, including the Government of Canada, and the bodies established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ensure respect for and recognition of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and that they follow up on the full and effective implementation of the Declaration, in particular in the context of Arctic indigenous peoples. In this regard, these parties must pay immediate and special attention to the right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making in all matters that affect their rights; the right of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources; and the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent.

52. The Permanent Forum recommends that States take steps to establish truth commissions in situations of reported gross violations of the human rights of indigenous peoples. The Forum underlines that the full and effective participation of affected indigenous peoples is a precondition for the establishment and work of truth commissions.

#### **Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds**

53. The Permanent Forum engaged in an interactive dialogue with the international financial institutions (the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Finance Corporation). Development projects financed by international financial institutions have significant impacts on the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples, who worldwide constitute a disproportionately high percentage of the poor and who have lower levels of education and a greater incidence of disease and discrimination than other groups. The Forum welcomes the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the multilateral development banks — the first of its kind in the operative years of the Forum — and hopes that it will result in a more structured relationship between the Forum and the banks and that it will feed into the outcome of the processes to review and update safeguard policies that many of the banks are currently undertaking.

54. The Permanent Forum recommends that international financial institutions unequivocally acknowledge the collective right of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources in their safeguard policies and in all development project contexts (not merely in exceptional circumstances). Banks should not support any projects that affect indigenous peoples without prior recognition of and effective guarantees for their collective rights to own, control and manage their lands, territories and resources.

55. The Permanent Forum recommends that international financial institutions adopt and incorporate the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent, without qualification, into their safeguard policies and project-related instruments. International financial institutions must ensure that their clients and borrowers engage in processes with indigenous peoples affected by bank-financed projects to secure their free, prior and informed consent.

56. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank brings its policy on indigenous peoples (OP 4.10) into full compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum attaches particular importance to the need for the Bank to adopt the standard of free, prior and informed consent and, in general, to institutionalize and operationalize an approach based on human rights. The Forum reiterates its recommendation, made at its twelfth session that the emerging instruments of the Bank and other agencies must be harmonized with the Declaration, which is regarded as a reflection of the minimum human rights standards necessary for the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples, nations and communities. Such instruments should be consistent with or exceed those minimum standards. The Forum underlines the need for the Bank's operational policies to use language that is consistent with the Declaration.

57. The Forum notes with concern the unsatisfactory implementation of the World Bank's policy on indigenous peoples, as documented by many of the Bank's internal

reviews, most notably the 2011 internal review report and the 2010 report by the Independent Evaluation Group, *Safeguards and Sustainability Policies in a Changing World*. Strict adherence to safeguards of indigenous peoples' rights is necessary. The Forum recommends that efforts be directed towards compliance machinery within the Bank, both up front, when dealing with projects and design and approval processes, and in post-project enforcement mechanisms.

58. The Forum also notes with concern that the World Bank's operational policies, including its policy on indigenous peoples, have limited application, covering only investment lending and not other Bank operations. The Forum recommends that the outcome target of the Bank's process to review and update its safeguards be a set of safeguards and follow-up mechanisms covering all finance instruments and all other Bank operations.

59. The Permanent Forum calls upon the World Bank to strengthen its accountability mechanisms so that they focus on situations in which its funded projects adversely affect indigenous peoples and also to proactively implement specific measures to meaningfully contribute to the progressive realization of the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination.

60. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank, in consultation with the Forum and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, examine the involuntary resettlement of indigenous peoples in connection with projects financed by the Bank and submit a report thereon in 2014.

61. The Permanent Forum takes note of the announcement by the World Bank concerning the establishment of an indigenous peoples advisory council. The Forum recognizes the need for dialogue and will take into consideration the proposal on the understanding that the objective of such an initiative will be to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples and that the final outcome will be full compliance of the Bank's policies, guidelines and activities with the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

62. The Permanent Forum calls upon the World Bank to include the rights of indigenous peoples in its knowledge and learning activities for staff and management. Instruments for learning, such as the Nordic Trust Fund, should include training on how operational policies in place regarding the rights of indigenous peoples should be fully implemented.

63. The Permanent Forum appreciates the steps taken by the African Development Bank to include safeguards for indigenous peoples in its integrated safeguards system. The Forum is concerned, however, that the Bank remains the only multilateral bank not to have a stand-alone safeguard policy for indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that the Bank fast-track, in coordination with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and other regional bodies, a regional policy framework for indigenous peoples in line with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and report on progress to the Forum at its thirteenth session, in 2014. The Forum further recommends that the Bank develop a mechanism specifically to support the entrepreneurship activities of indigenous peoples.

64. The Permanent Forum urges the Asian Development Bank, in projects that it funds, to ensure that it avoids adverse impacts on indigenous peoples and their watersheds and other fragile ecosystems and to promote the rights of indigenous peoples to land and resources.

65. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Inter-American Development Bank reconsider its policy and strategies so as to ensure the inclusion of representatives of indigenous peoples in an advisory body and incorporate the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent, without any qualifications, into safeguard policies and project-related instruments.

66. The Permanent Forum encourages international financial institutions to establish policy mechanisms and programme frameworks requiring corporations to comply with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which were unanimously endorsed by the Human Rights Council in 2011, in addition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

67. The Permanent Forum, noting the significance for indigenous peoples of the negotiations under way at WIPO on intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, strongly encourages representatives of indigenous peoples to participate in those negotiations, consistent with article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

68. The Permanent Forum welcomes the role that the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities has played since 2005 in funding the participation of indigenous peoples in sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore and calls upon States, foundations and other organizations to contribute to the Fund.

69. The Permanent Forum, recalling the comprehensive dialogue held with the WIPO secretariat at its eleventh session, in 2012, and the recommendations that it then addressed to WIPO, acknowledges the activities undertaken by WIPO to date in response to the recommendations and welcomes, in particular, the holding of an indigenous expert workshop in April 2013, jointly organized by the secretariats of the Forum and WIPO, as recommended by the Forum.

70. The Permanent Forum welcomes the holding of the first global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at the headquarters of IFAD in February 2013. The Permanent Forum is encouraged by the dialogues between the members of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum and the members of the IFAD Governing Council, including the presentation of the declaration adopted at the global meeting.

#### **Discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples**

71. The Permanent Forum reaffirms the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the normative framework for the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The provisions of Assembly resolution 66/296 regarding the organization of the World Conference must be given the widest and most generous interpretation possible in order to achieve the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples.

72. The Permanent Forum welcomes the work undertaken by indigenous peoples in the regional and thematic caucus preparatory meetings and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group drafting group and looks forward to the forthcoming

recommendations of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the regional preparatory meetings and their respective contributions to the outcome document of the World Conference. All conclusions and recommendations that arise from those activities must be taken into consideration in the decision-making relating to the World Conference itself. The Forum wishes to draw attention to the collective objective of ensuring an informal hearing, interactive round tables, panel discussions and the adoption of an action-oriented outcome document of the Conference.

73. The Permanent Forum expresses its gratitude to the Government of Guatemala and to the United Nations country team in Guatemala for organizing the meeting of the United Nations International Experts on Indigenous Peoples' Rights, which included the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the Forum, the co-facilitators and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group, in preparation for the World Conference, which was held in Tikal, Guatemala, on 20 and 21 December 2012.

74. The Permanent Forum welcomes the confirmation that the Government of Mexico will hold a regional and thematic preparatory meeting, with the participation of Member States, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Forum, to build further consensus on the process and content of the World Conference and its related discussions. The Forum appoints Saul Vicente as a focal point to work with the Government of Mexico in the preparations for the meeting.

75. The Permanent Forum welcomes the interest of the Governments of Botswana and the Congo in supporting the rights of indigenous peoples in the region, including the World Conference process, and encourages other African Governments to follow this good practice. The Forum welcomes the willingness of Simon William M'Viboudoulou to assist in the preparation and successful hosting of these meetings.

76. The Permanent Forum welcomes the preparation by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the study entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples: achievements and challenges in the Latin American countries", and encourages other regional commissions to undertake similar studies.

77. The Permanent Forum reiterates that the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues constitutes a key forum for the achievement of more effective coordination and coherence in supporting the preparations for and the participation of indigenous peoples in the World Conference and recommends stronger engagement and the participation of all agencies, programmes and funds in the work of the Group.

78. The Permanent Forum considers that the conclusion of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, should be considered as a firm basis for the identification of specific themes for the round table and panel discussions under the auspices of the General Assembly.

79. The Permanent Forum recommends to the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly the continuation of the practice, established during the

sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, of appointing a State representative and an indigenous peoples' representative to conduct inclusive informal consultations on his behalf in order to build consensus on the themes of the round table and panel discussions and the content of the outcome document of the World Conference, as well as to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the process.

80. The Permanent Forum recalls General Assembly resolution 66/296 and recommends that the President of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly organize an informal interactive hearing, back-to-back with, but separate from, the thirteenth session of the Forum. This will ensure that those representatives of indigenous peoples who are attending the Forum are also able to participate in the informal interactive hearing without the need to return to New York at a later date and incur further travel and other related expenditures.

81. The Permanent Forum notes that the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat will devote additional resources to support the preparations of the World Conference, also through the 60 United Nations information centres around the world.

82. The Permanent Forum notes the engagement of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the preparations for the World Conference and recommends that the Union organize meetings of parliamentarians at the global, regional and country levels to discuss the adoption of legislative and administrative measures affecting indigenous peoples and to encourage the participation of parliamentarians, including indigenous parliamentarians, in the World Conference and its preparatory processes. Such meetings should draw upon the positive developments from the conference facilitated by the Union that was held in Chiapas, Mexico, in 2010 and that led to the adoption of the Chiapas Declaration.

83. The Permanent Forum reiterates the recommendations made in paragraphs 80 and 81 of the report on its eleventh session (E/2012/43-E.C19/2012/13) and invites the indigenous peoples' caucus and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group to ensure the equal and inclusive participation of indigenous women, older persons, young people and persons with disabilities in the World Conference and its preparatory processes.

84. The Permanent Forum requests the Office of the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly to maintain close communication with the Forum, through its secretariat, to facilitate the Forum's contribution to the preparatory stages of the World Conference. The Forum also requests the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide support to the secretariat of the Forum to carry out its responsibilities in this regard.

85. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation that indigenous peoples have equal participation in the drafting of all documents that emerge from the World Conference process, including any outcome document.

86. Recalling the recommendation made in paragraph 118 of the report on its eleventh session (E/2012/43-E.C19/2012/13), the Permanent Forum takes note of the interventions made by indigenous peoples, Member States and others concerning the potential themes for the World Conference. A number of themes have emerged as priority issues of concern to all: the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination; the right of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and

resources; extractive industries and the related right to free, prior and informed consent; the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples; and the need to strengthen the participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations mechanisms and the mechanism themselves, as well as the need for immediate, effective and comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by Member States and the United Nations system with the full participation of indigenous peoples. The Forum is mindful that dialogue will continue among and between indigenous peoples and Member States in preparation for the World Conference.

87. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations system strengthen existing coordination mechanisms at the country level, and in partnership with indigenous peoples and other relevant entities and national partners, in order to implement the outcomes of the World Conference. The Forum offers its support in this regard.

88. The Permanent Forum invites all organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions and international and regional financial institutions, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Conference and to integrate them into their programmes of work, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, in full cooperation with indigenous peoples at the national, subregional, regional and global levels.

89. The Permanent Forum calls upon Member States, guided by the spirit of solidarity with indigenous peoples and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the outcomes of the World Conference in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

90. The Permanent Forum recommends that the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in the selection of co-chairs and other members of the two plenary meetings, the three interactive round-table discussions and the one interactive panel discussion during the World Conference, in addition to the informal interactive hearing to be held before June 2014, apply the criteria of regional representation of indigenous peoples; gender balance; inclusion of indigenous elders and youth; and inclusion of indigenous persons with disabilities. The Forum offers its assistance in identifying potential co-chairs and other members.

#### **Future work**

91. The Permanent Forum recommends that, in view of the 2015 deadline for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, Member States and the United Nations system make use of the experiences and lessons learned and capture the priorities for development and well-being of indigenous peoples and include indigenous peoples in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Goals.

92. The Permanent Forum welcomes the efforts of UNDP to endorse the political participation of indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean and its support in the preparation of the report on democracy and indigenous peoples in the region. The Forum recommends to UNDP that it extend this good practice to other regions and follow up regularly.

93. The Permanent Forum welcomes the evaluation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that took place in Guatemala, the results of which were presented to the experts of the Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that similar practices be implemented by other United Nations country teams and other countries.

94. The Permanent Forum welcomes the outcome of the online consultation on indigenous peoples and inequality, co-moderated by the secretariat of the Forum and UNICEF, which was held in 2012 in the context of the thematic consultation on inequalities.

95. The Permanent Forum welcomes the outcome of the consultation entitled “Realizing the future we want in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a post-2015 development agenda”, held in Guadalajara, Mexico, in April 2013 at the initiative of the Government of Mexico, and values the good practice of exchange with other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and businesses. The Forum recommends that other Member States follow the same good practice.

96. The Permanent Forum recommends to Member States that the development agenda beyond 2015 adopt a human rights-based approach to development that takes into account issues of equity and sustainability and that incorporates an indigenous holistic concept of development with culture and identity. The Forum also recommends that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples constitute the normative framework of this work.

97. The Permanent Forum recommends to Member States that the development agenda beyond 2015 recognize indigenous peoples’ right to self-determination, autonomy and self-governance, together with their right to determine their own priorities for their development, to participate in governance and policy decision-making processes at the local, national, regional and international levels and to develop mechanisms for consultation and participation of indigenous peoples, building on the fundamental right to free, prior and informed consent and full participation in the development process. The role of the United Nations country teams in that respect is crucial.

98. The Permanent Forum also recommends to Member States that the development agenda beyond 2015 recognize, protect and strengthen indigenous peoples’ collective rights, in particular the right to land, territories and natural resources.

99. For the post-2015 dialogue and outcomes to accomplish a sea change and paradigm shift away from a North-South dialogue to one of universally addressing the post-2015 objectives in order to improve the lives of all, including indigenous peoples in developed countries, the Forum recommends that efforts must be made to guarantee the direct participation of indigenous peoples from the world’s most developed and affluent countries in all thematic consultations, conclusions and recommendations so that their voices and concerns can be heard.

100. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States and the United Nations system involved in the processes leading to the development agenda beyond 2015 make concerted and targeted efforts to reach out to, and engage in a truly inclusive process with, indigenous peoples, including indigenous women, youth and persons with disabilities, to ensure that their rights and priorities are included in all



processes relating to the definition of the themes and priorities for the post-2015 development agenda and of the sustainable development goals.

101. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations system conduct a separate consultation with indigenous peoples at the regional and global levels as an integral and critical part of the processes relating to the post-2015 development agenda.

102. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations system ensure that the processes relating to the definition of the development agenda beyond 2015 are formulated in accordance with the objectives of sustainable development, as defined in the Indigenous Peoples' International Declaration on Sustainable Development and Self-Determination, adopted by the Indigenous Peoples' International Conference on Sustainable Development and Self-Determination, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012, and also recommends that culture be affirmed as the fourth pillar of sustainable development.

103. In this regard, the Permanent Forum recommends that Member States and the United Nations system take due account of the outcome document and the conclusions of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in September 2014, given that this process is deeply interrelated with the post-2015 process and will set the context for future work on indigenous peoples' issues.

104. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations system ensure the inclusion and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples in all processes relating to the elaboration of the sustainable development goals. In this regard, the Forum recommends that indigenous peoples and their organizations and representatives participate in the dialogues between Member States and civil society during meetings of the Group.

105. The Permanent Forum recommends that the co-chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals invite members of the Forum and representatives of indigenous peoples, including indigenous women, youth and persons with disabilities, to participate in the dedicated meeting that the co-chairs intend to convene later in 2013 in order to have a comprehensive dialogue and interaction with indigenous peoples.

106. The Permanent Forum recommends that the summary and outcome of the discussion on the post-2015 process held during the twelfth session of the Forum and the outcome of the consultations held with indigenous peoples in preparation for the post-2015 development agenda be transmitted as background documents to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

107. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations Development Group, UNDP, UN-Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UNESCO and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs provide technical and logistical support to enable the participation of indigenous peoples in processes relating to the sustainable development goals, including in conducting research, collecting good practices and replicating and promoting the contribution of indigenous peoples to sustainable and equitable development.

108. The Permanent Forum endorses and recognizes a global working group of indigenous peoples on the post-2015 sustainable development goals to continue the work of the Indigenous Peoples' Global Coordinating Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and to ensure continuing engagement in this vital process that will have profound and direct impacts on indigenous peoples and communities in all regions.

109. The Permanent Forum recommends the development and inclusion of clear indicators and monitoring tools relating to indigenous peoples in the sustainable development goals and post-2015 development process, to be developed jointly with indigenous peoples.

110. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Statistical Commission and the United Nations Statistics Division use the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts in the development of a coherent and integrated set of indicators for monitoring the situation and well-being of indigenous peoples and the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

111. The Permanent Forum recommends that FAO, in 2014, the International Year of Family Farming, organize and host an expert seminar on culture, food sovereignty and traditional livelihoods to feed into the post-2015 process. The seminar should include the participation of an elder, an adult and a young person from each of the seven sociocultural regions of the Forum.

112. The Permanent Forum urges increased dialogue among Governments, institutions and indigenous peoples concerning the identification, incorporation and value of indigenous knowledge in all disaster risk reduction projects and programmes at the national and regional levels. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction take into consideration the study on engaging indigenous peoples more inclusively in the disaster risk reduction process (E/C.19/2013/14) as part of the official documentation of the third World Conference on Disaster Reduction, to be held in 2015.

113. The Permanent Forum reviewed its recommendations on health, education, culture and the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues and deemed them to be outdated. The Forum decided to retire the following recommendations: paragraphs 9-14 and 31 of the report on its first session (E/2002/43/Rev.1-E/CN.19/2002/3/Rev.1 and Corr.1); paragraphs 64, 65, 67, 72, 75, 76 and 81 of the report on its second session (E/2003/43-E/C.19/2003/22); paragraphs 18, 25, 93, 94 and 98 of the report on its third session (E/2004/43-E/C.19/2004/23); paragraphs 41, 42, 46, 47, 96, 120, 128 and 141 of the report on its fourth session (E/2005/43-E/C.19/2005/9 and Corr.1-2); paragraphs 17, 36, 37, 144 and 165 of the report on its fifth session (E/2006/43-E/C.19/2006/11); paragraphs 71, 80, 134 and 135 of the report on its sixth session (E/2007/43-E/C.19/2007/12); paragraphs 87 and 103 of the report on its seventh session (E/2008/43-E/C.19/2008/13); paragraphs 28 and 77 of the report on its eighth session (E/2009/43-E/C.19/2009/14); paragraph 135 of the report on its ninth session (E/2010/43-E/C.19/2010/15); and paragraph 88 of the report on its tenth session (E/2011/43-E/C.19/2011/14 and Corr.1).

114. The Permanent Forum takes note of the final report of the three-day international expert group meeting on the theme "Indigenous youth: identity,

challenges and hope: articles 14, 17, 21 and 25 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples” (E/C.19/2013/3) and endorses its recommendations.

115. The Permanent Forum recommends that all Member States and intergovernmental agencies ensure that efficient programming is developed in order for the positive transformation of social problems stemming from the weak and inadequate implementation of articles 7, 17, 21 and 22 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This programming has to be targeted at indigenous youth for fundamental change.

116. The Permanent Forum recommends that relevant United Nations agencies dealing with indigenous peoples’ issues should take action on the inclusion of indigenous persons with disabilities in all their activities, make their websites accessible to persons with disabilities, promote the increased participation of indigenous persons with disabilities in their annual sessions and consider having expert sessions on indigenous persons with disabilities.

117. The Permanent Forum reiterates the call, made at its fifth and eleventh sessions, upon United Nations agencies and funds to conduct and support regional and international human rights training programmes aimed at building the capacity and advocacy skills of indigenous youth. The Forum further recommends the use of youth forums, social media and other popular cultural forms of communication to disseminate information and training material on the rights of indigenous youth and to facilitate consultation processes at the national and international levels.

118. The Permanent Forum recommends that Governments and United Nations agencies assign resources for communication activities, strengthen access to information and draw greater attention to the issues of indigenous peoples in the media, using various forms of media outreach, in order to complement the activities of the Department of Public Information.

119. The Permanent Forum recommends that all United Nations agencies concerned with water, including UNESCO and the International Hydrological Programme, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme and FAO, give full support to the planning, development and implementation of an indigenous world forum on water in order to give voice to the indigenous peoples’ perspective of protection and access to all sources of water and its sacred role in the indigenous context.

120. The Permanent Forum urges UN-Women, UNDP, other relevant United Nations agencies and Governments to support the political participation of indigenous women by assigning resources to training and exchange programmes and strengthening organization and networks of indigenous women.

121. The Permanent Forum urges the Economic and Social Council to decide that the report of the twelfth session should be presented to it by the Chair, or a designate thereof, of the Forum.

122. During the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the members of the Permanent Forum were not able to register as United Nations experts. Forum members attend many United Nations meetings where their specific status is not recognized. The Forum therefore recommends that Member States include Forum members as United Nations experts, not as part of major groups, in United Nations accreditation processes.

## Chapter II

### Venue, dates and proceedings of the session

123. By its decision 2012/244, the Economic and Social Council decided that the twelfth session of the Permanent Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 31 May 2013.

124. At its 2nd to 4th meetings, on 20 May 2013, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 3, "Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum: (a) Health; (b) Education; (c) Culture". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the report of the international expert group meeting on indigenous youth: identity, challenges and hope: articles 14, 17, 21 and 25 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/3), a study on how the knowledge, history and contemporary social circumstances of indigenous peoples are embedded in the curricula of education systems (E/C.19/2013/17) and an analysis of health, education and culture prepared by the secretariat of the Forum (E/C.19/2013/19). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May 2013, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 3 (see chap. I, sect. B).

125. At its 7th meeting, on 23 May, the Forum considered agenda item 4, "Half-day discussion on the African region". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a study on resilience, traditional knowledge and capacity-building for pastoralist communities in Africa (E/C.19/2013/5). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 4 (see chap. I, sect. B).

126. At its 8th and 9th meetings, on 24 May, the Forum considered agenda item 5, "Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds", during which there was a dialogue with international financial institutions. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a review of World Bank operational policies (E/C.19/2013/15), a report on indigenous people's rights and safeguards in projects related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (E/C.19/2013/7) and the report of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues annual meeting for 2012 (E/C.19/2013/4). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 5 (see chap. I, sect. B).

127. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 28 May, the Forum considered agenda item 6, "Discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it studies on national constitutions and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/18) and on the links between the rights of indigenous peoples, truth commissions and other truth-seeking mechanisms on the American continent (E/C.19/2013/13). It also heard an oral report on the situation of indigenous peoples and their participation in democracies and electoral processes in Latin America under the Declaration. At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 6 (see chap. I, sect. B).

128. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 22 May, the Forum considered agenda item 7, "Human rights: (a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it

studies on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on challenges faced with regard to the full enjoyment of human rights and inclusion in development (E/C.19/2013/6) and on the extent of violence against indigenous women and girls in terms of article 22 (2) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/9). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May 2013, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 7 (see chap. I, sect. B).

129. At its 12th to 15th meetings, on 29 and 30 May, the Forum considered agenda item 8, “Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a consolidated report on extractive industries and their impact on indigenous peoples (E/C.19/2013/16) and studies on the extractive industries in Mexico and the situation of indigenous peoples in the territories in which those industries are located (E/C.19/2013/11), on the impact of the mining boom on indigenous communities in Australia (E/C.19/2013/20), on indigenous women’s political participation at the international, national and local levels (E/C.19/2013/10), on the right to participation of indigenous youth in the Nordic countries in decision-making processes (E/C.19/2013/8) and on decolonization of the Pacific region (E/C.19/2013/12). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision and its recommendations submitted under agenda item 8 (see chap. I, sects. A and B).

130. At its 15th meeting, on 30 May, the Forum considered agenda item 9, “Draft agenda for the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum”. At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision submitted under agenda item 9 (see chap. I, sect. A).

## **Chapter III**

### **Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twelfth session**

131. At the 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Rapporteur introduced the draft decisions and recommendations and the draft report of the Permanent Forum on its twelfth session.

132. At the same meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted its draft report.

## Chapter IV Organization of the session

### A. Opening and duration of the session

133. The Permanent Forum held its twelfth session at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 31 May 2013. It held 16 formal meetings and 2 closed meetings to consider the items on its agenda.

134. At the 1st meeting, on 20 May, the session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. At the opening ceremony, Tododaho Sid Hill, of the Onondaga Nation, delivered a welcoming address. The President of the Economic and Social Council and the Acting President of the General Assembly delivered statements.

135. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Chair of the Permanent Forum.

136. At the closing (16th) meeting, on 31 May, the Deputy Secretary-General made a statement.

### B. Attendance

137. Members of the Forum and representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and bodies, United Nations entities and non-governmental and indigenous organizations attended the session. The list of participants is contained in document E/C.19/2013/INF/1.

### C. Election of officers

138. At its 1st meeting, on 20 May, the Forum elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

*Chair:*

Paul Kanyinke **Sena**

*Vice-Chairs:*

Raja Devasish **Roy**

Viktorija **Tuulas**

Saul **Vicente**

Bertie **Xavier**

*Rapporteur:*

Eva **Biaudet**

### D. Agenda

139. At its 1st meeting, on 20 May, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document E/C.19/2013/1.

## **E. Documentation**

140. A list of the documents before the Forum at its twelfth session is contained in document E/C.19/2013/INF/2.

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