



# General Assembly

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**  
**Seventeenth session**  
8–12 July 2024  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda  
**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

## **Annotated provisional agenda**

### **Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Study and advice on constitutions, laws, legislation, policies, judicial decisions and other mechanisms through which States have taken measures to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with article 38 of the Declaration.
4. Coordination meeting of United Nations Indigenous rights mechanisms.
5. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
6. Country engagement.
7. International Decade of Indigenous Languages.
8. Panel discussion on the rights of Indigenous Peoples in post-conflict situations and peace negotiations, agreements and accords.
9. Enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations.
10. Future work of the Expert Mechanism, including follow-up to past thematic studies and advice.
11. Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval.
12. Adoption of studies and reports.



## Annotations

### 1. Election of officers

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, the Human Rights Council applies the rules of procedure established for committees of the General Assembly,<sup>1</sup> as applicable, unless subsequently otherwise decided by the Assembly or the Council.

Regarding the election of officers, rule 103 of the rules of procedure provides that each committee should elect a Chair, one or more Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Expert Mechanism will have before it the present provisional agenda of the seventeenth session and the annotations contained therein. The Expert Mechanism will adopt the agenda, including any revisions that it may wish to make.

In paragraph 12 of its resolution 33/25, the Human Rights Council decided that the Expert Mechanism should meet annually for up to five days and that the sessions may be a combination of open and private meetings, as deemed necessary. At its seventeenth session, the Expert Mechanism will meet for five days, from 8 to 12 July 2024.

Rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that each committee should, at the beginning of the session, adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item. Accordingly, the Expert Mechanism will have before it for consideration and approval a draft timetable prepared by the secretariat showing the order and distribution of meeting times for each agenda item for the seventeenth session.

### 3. Study and advice on constitutions, laws, legislation, policies, judicial decisions and other mechanisms through which States have taken measures to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with article 38 of the Declaration

At its sixteenth session, the Expert Mechanism decided to conduct its next annual study on the status of the rights of Indigenous Peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the Declaration, as mandated by the Human Rights Council in paragraph 2 (a) of its resolution 33/25, on an analysis of constitutions, laws, legislation, policies, judicial decisions and other mechanisms through which States have taken measures to achieve the ends of the Declaration, in accordance with article 38 of the Declaration.<sup>2</sup>

Accordingly, the Expert Mechanism has prepared a draft study thereon.<sup>3</sup> Following the practice adopted for its previous studies, the Expert Mechanism sent out a call for submissions and contributions and examined the issue in greater detail at an expert seminar held in Costa Rica in November 2023.

Under agenda item 3, the Expert Mechanism and observers will make comments and suggestions on the draft study. The Expert Mechanism will subsequently finalize the study and submit it to the Human Rights Council for consideration at its fifty-seventh session of the Council.

### 4. Coordination meeting of United Nations Indigenous rights mechanisms

In paragraph 10 of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Council decided that, within its mandate, the Expert Mechanism should coordinate its work and further strengthen its participation, engagement and cooperation, as appropriate, with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and other United Nations bodies and

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<sup>1</sup> [A/520/Rev.17](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/54/64](#), para. 101.

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/EMRIP/2024/2](#).

processes. The Expert Mechanism will therefore hold a closed meeting of United Nations Indigenous rights mechanisms in order to coordinate their work and plan joint initiatives for the period 2024/25.

#### **5. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

The amended mandate of the Expert Mechanism is explicitly based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, pursuant to paragraph 1 of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25.

Under agenda item 5, the Expert Mechanism will hold an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and members of human rights treaty bodies.

#### **6. Country engagement**

As part of the amended mandate of the Expert Mechanism set out in Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Council indicated that the Expert Mechanism should, upon request, assist Member States and/or Indigenous Peoples in identifying the need for, and providing technical advice regarding, the development of domestic legislation and policies relating to the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Expert Mechanism has carried out seven country engagement initiatives under its amended mandate since 2018 (Finland, 10–16 February 2018; Mexico, 26 February–2 March 2018; New Zealand, 8–13 April 2019; Sweden, 2020; Brazil, 2021; Australia, 1–10 October 2023; and Norway, 7–15 March 2024).

Under agenda item 6, the Expert Mechanism will hold a dialogue with various stakeholders involved in previous country engagement initiatives.

#### **7. International Decade of Indigenous Languages**

The Expert Mechanism joins the efforts, led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to draw global attention to the critical situation of many Indigenous languages, following the proclamation by the General Assembly, in paragraph 24 of its resolution 74/135, of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

Pursuant to paragraph 10 of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism decided, at its intersessional meeting held in Costa Rica in November 2023, to hold a discussion on the International Decade for Indigenous Languages.

#### **8. Panel discussion on the rights of Indigenous Peoples in post-conflict situations and peace negotiations, agreements and accords**

Pursuant to article 7 (2) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which establishes that Indigenous Peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples, the role of peace agreements and other constructive arrangements becomes pivotal in resolving conflicts. Indigenous Peoples have actively engaged in negotiating peace agreements with States to bring an end to hostilities.

The objective of the panel discussion is to examine both existing good practices and the challenges and barriers encountered in safeguarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples during peace negotiations, in post-conflict scenarios and within peace agreements and accords. Emphasis will be placed on monitoring the implementation of these agreements. During the discussion, the panel will explore constructive approaches to peace negotiations, accords and agreements between Indigenous Peoples and States that could serve as models in the future.

#### **9. Enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations**

At its intersessional meeting held in Costa Rica in November 2023, the Expert Mechanism decided to follow up on the process that had begun with a commitment made by Member States during the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014 to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant

United Nations bodies on issues affecting them. That commitment was reiterated in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 71/321 and in the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them.<sup>4</sup> In the report, the Secretary-General also set out achievements, analysis and concrete recommendations on the possible further measures necessary to enable such participation.

Interactive dialogues have been realized pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 39/13, 42/19 and 45/12. The Expert Mechanism will focus on follow-up to recent interactive discussions held in July 2021, September 2021 and the expert workshop on possible ways to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Council, held in November 2022.<sup>5</sup>

**10. Future work of the Expert Mechanism, including follow-up to past thematic studies and advice**

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (a) of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism is to prepare an annual study on the status of the rights of Indigenous Peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, focusing on one or more interrelated articles of the Declaration, decided by the Expert Mechanism, taking into consideration the suggestions received from Member States and Indigenous Peoples, including challenges, good practices and recommendations. Under agenda item 10, the Expert Mechanism will hold a discussion regarding the focus of such future annual studies.

In paragraph 5 of its resolution 18/8, the Human Rights Council welcomed the practice adopted by the Expert Mechanism of devoting specific time to the discussion of updates relevant to past thematic studies of the Expert Mechanism, recommended that the Expert Mechanism adopt that practice on a permanent basis and encouraged States to continue to participate in and contribute to those discussions. Under agenda item 10, the Expert Mechanism will consider efforts conducted or planned in follow-up to its past thematic studies.

**11. Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval**

Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/36, the Expert Mechanism may make proposals to the Council for its consideration and approval, within the scope of its work as set out by the Council, which may include proposals on how the thematic expertise of the Expert Mechanism could assist in the implementation of the Council's mandate and mechanisms.

**12. Adoption of studies and reports**

The Expert Mechanism will adopt its study and advice on constitutions, laws, legislation, policies, judicial decisions and other mechanisms through which States have taken measures to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with article 38 of the Declaration, and an annual report on its work, including its seventeenth session, with a view to submitting those documents to the Human Rights Council for consideration at the fifty-seventh session of the Council.

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<sup>4</sup> [A/75/255](#).

<sup>5</sup> [A/HRC/49/69](#), [A/HRC/50/48](#) and [A/HRC/53/44](#).