

United Nations Human Rights Council: Indigenous Input to the Main International Human Rights Institution

History

- UN GA Res 60/251 on 15 March 2005 Newly Created
- 1st Session 19 - 30 June 2006
- HRC Resolution 5/1 on June 2007 Institution Building Package
- HRC Resolution 16/21 on 2011 Review of Work & Functioning of HR Council

Membership

- 47 members elected
- Current Membership

Sessions

- Sessions: No Fewer than 3 Regular Session a Year for at Least 10 Weeks
- March (4 weeks), June (3 weeks) and September (3 weeks)
- 27th Session September 2014 final 3 weeks of September usually
- There can be special sessions if 1/3 of the members decide and vote

Special Sessions

- 20 sessions since 2006
- July 2006 - January 2014
- 18 on specific states and 2 on themes Negative Impact on worsening of world food; impact of global economic and financial crisis

UN Human Rights Council Agenda & Participation

- Agenda Item 2 - 10
- Possible to do Interventions

Participation -Prior to Session

- Submission of NGO Written Statements (Near End Month Prior)
- Requests for NGO Parallel-Event Rooms (Mid Month Prior)
- Sign Up and Register to Speak on Agenda Items (Friday before Session Starts)

Special Procedures

- UN Special Rapporteurs focus on States and Themes
- Independent Experts
- Working Groups
- Also schedule private meetings with SRs if presenting but also their assistants at the
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at Palais Wilson and Motta

Other Opportunities to Intervene & Provide Input

- Panel Discussions
- Interactive Dialogue
- Debates

Universal Periodic Review

- Chance to Speak During Adoption of Reports Focusing on Indigenous Peoples

Complaint Procedure

- 5 Stages
- Submitting a Complaint in Writing
- Initial Screening
- Working Group on Communications
- Working Group on Situations
- Human Rights Council decision and actions

Resolutions

There are informal discussions on specific resolutions on many themes important to indigenous peoples. It is important to attend specific resolution meetings during the UN HR Council. Can make statements at conclusion of every negotiation. Usually there are 2-5 meetings for resolutions so can add and propose language. Can meet with co-chairs of the resolution informally between sessions

Side Event During the Actual UN Human Rights Council

UN Human Rights Council

- Subsidiary Bodies
- Working Group on Universal Periodic Review
- Advisory Committee
- Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Forum on Minority Issues
- Social Forum
- Forum on Business and Human Rights

Follow up Advocacy & Action Plans