

20<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda:  
International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, including information relating to the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the reports of the Advisory Group.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE  
WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

**Activities in 2002:**

At its 7<sup>th</sup> session, held from 8-12 April 2002, the Advisory Group of the UNVF for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People recommended for approval by the Secretary General a list of 43 grants to projects of indigenous communities and organizations for a total amount of US\$ 390,152. The names of these organizations and amount of the grants can be found in the note by the Secretariat of the Fund to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2002/7), which is available in the room.

The Fund is also financing a media project, to be implemented by the Indigenous Projects Team of the Research and Right to Development Branch of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, that will ensure indigenous media participation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 6 September 2002, and which was approved by the High Commissioner in April 2001. The Fund has already financed another media project this year, also implemented by the Indigenous Projects Team, which ensured indigenous media participation at the first session of the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples Issues, held in New York from 13 to 24 May 2002.

**Financial needs:**

With the project grants to indigenous communities and organizations, and the two media projects, the Secretary-General has spent all of the money available for projects and programmes at the time of the Advisory Group's 7<sup>th</sup> session. Therefore, despite contributions from new donors and sustained contributions from regular donors, sufficient means are not available to implement all of the Fund's envisaged activities in 2002 and 2003.

The cost plan for 2003 amounts to approximately US\$ 800,000 for project grants to indigenous organizations and communities, as well as for workshops and seminars on indigenous issues.

It is important for contributions to be received well in advance of the next session of the Advisory Group, which will be held in April 2003, in order to enable the Fund and the Advisory Group to fulfill their mandate.

**Further information on the Fund can be found in:**

Further information on the Fund can be found in the report by the HC to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2002/96), in the aforementioned note by the Secretariat of the Fund to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/5) and in the upcoming Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly's forthcoming session.