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**Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference  
on Indigenous Peoples****Implementation of the United Nations system-wide action  
plan on indigenous peoples****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

In the outcome document of the 2014 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to develop, within existing resources, a system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The system-wide action plan was launched at the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in May 2016. The present report provides an update on the implementation of the system-wide action plan.

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\* E/C.19/2017/1.



## I. Introduction

1. In the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (General Assembly resolution 69/2), the General Assembly requested the development of a system-wide action plan for a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Under the leadership of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, with support from the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, of the Division for Social Policy and Development, the system-wide action plan was prepared by the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues.<sup>1</sup> The action plan was developed on the basis of consultations with indigenous peoples, Member States and entities of the United Nations system and was launched by the Secretary-General at the opening of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held in New York from 9 to 20 May 2016.

2. The present report is based on information provided by the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies on the implementation of the action plan. The Forum acknowledges and thanks all the agencies, funds, programmes and other intergovernmental organizations that provided reports, and urges them to continue to provide such information on their activities to follow up on the system-wide action plan. The reports constitute an important element in fulfilling the Forum's mandate to provide expert advice and recommendations on indigenous issues to the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations, and to promote the integration and coordination of activities related to indigenous issues within the United Nations system.

3. As at 15 January, responses had been received from 14 entities: the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Department of Public Information, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Global Compact, the World Bank Group and the secretariat of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The comprehensive responses are available from the website of the Forum ([www.un.org/indigenous](http://www.un.org/indigenous)).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues comprises 42 United Nations entities. Further information is available from [www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/about-us/inter-agency-support-group.html](http://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/about-us/inter-agency-support-group.html).

<sup>2</sup> As at 15 February, reports had also been received from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), containing information related to the system-wide action plan. Available from [www.un.org/indigenous](http://www.un.org/indigenous).

## II. Implementation of the system-wide action plan

4. The present report on implementation of the system-wide action plan is focused on the six action areas of the action plan: (a) raise awareness on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and indigenous issues; (b) support the implementation of the Declaration, particularly at the country level; (c) support the attainment of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (d) map existing policies, standards, guidelines, activities, resources and capacities within the United Nations and the multilateral system to identify opportunities and gaps; (e) develop the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and United Nations personnel at all levels; and (f) support the participation of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them. The action plan is aimed at promoting improved support to Member States as well as indigenous peoples themselves. In addition to progress made by different agencies, there are some cross-cutting and joint activities that are of relevance.

### A. Raise awareness of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Issues

5. The Department of Public Information coordinates activities under the first element in close collaboration with other members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues. Their focus is on increasing awareness of the Declaration through advocacy and awareness-raising by the system, including at the highest levels.

#### Joint initiatives

6. In 2016, a number of United Nations entities (the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), IFAD, OHCHR, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO), UNDP, UNESCO, United Nations Global Compact, UN-Women, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Public Information) established a working group of communications professionals working on indigenous issues. The working group, chaired by the Department of Public Information, meets quarterly and has developed a draft communications strategy, key messages on the Declaration, and an online platform for materials.<sup>3</sup> The Department of Public Information has also produced a publication of the system-wide action plan, available in English and Spanish.

#### Individual initiatives

7. The Department of Public Information has been engaged in raising awareness of the Declaration and indigenous issues. The Department provided media coverage of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum, including 45 interviews, four press conferences and 36 press releases. For the International Day of the World's Indigenous People on 9 August, the Department organized a press conference, produced press releases and radio features and managed the website for the

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<sup>3</sup> Trello board with joint United Nations resources, available from <http://bit.ly/29Q97gH>.

International Day. United Nations information centres around the world organized events on the International Day, including in Accra, Bogotá, Colombo, Jakarta and Lima. In 2016, 281 webcast videos and 287 photographs on indigenous issues were made available on the United Nations Web TV website and the United Nations Photo website. United Nations Television and Video also produced a feature story in its twenty-first century series on the preservation of indigenous languages with the Mapuche in Chile and a feature on violence against indigenous women in Canada.

8. ECLAC maintains a sub-site on indigenous issues on its website, which includes reports and informational videos, such as “Indigenous Peoples in Latin America”, a video on the demographic and socioeconomic situation of indigenous peoples and the significance of the Declaration. The site also features infographics on the enormous diversity of indigenous peoples living in Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>4</sup>

9. In 2016, IFAD continued its partnership with the Slow Food international Terra Madre movement to promote local sustainable food systems, indigenous food security and agrobiodiversity. The 2016 Terra Madre event in Turin, Italy, was attended by some 7,000 delegates from 143 countries. IFAD has also produced knowledge management tools as follows: “How to do note on seeking free, prior and informed consent in IFAD investment projects” (2015); a concept note on evaluation synthesis on engagement of IFAD with indigenous peoples (2015),<sup>5</sup> a publication, *The Traditional Knowledge Advantage* (2016); the “Indigenous Peoples Glossary” (2016); and a scoping study on indigenous peoples and the private sector (2016).

10. ILO refers to the Declaration and the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) on relevant occasions, including in statements by the Director-General of ILO,<sup>6</sup> in a technical note prepared for the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakesh from 7 to 18 November 2016,<sup>7</sup> and a guide for media professionals covering indigenous peoples’ issues in Cameroon.<sup>8</sup>

11. The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect presented the Declaration at three of the meetings of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, which brings together 18 Member States from the region of the Americas.<sup>9</sup> The Office is about to complete a research project on the theme “The responsibility to protect and indigenous peoples in Latin America: contextual factors affecting the implementation of atrocity crime prevention strategies”.

12. OHCHR continues to raise awareness of the Declaration among Member States, indigenous peoples, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the general public through publications, seminars and support for

<sup>4</sup> See [www.cepal.org/es/temas/pueblos-indigenas-y-afrodescendientes](http://www.cepal.org/es/temas/pueblos-indigenas-y-afrodescendientes).

<sup>5</sup> Available from [www.ifad.org/documents/10180/46649fb1-66a4-47ec-ae70-1e2332bca0f4](http://www.ifad.org/documents/10180/46649fb1-66a4-47ec-ae70-1e2332bca0f4).

<sup>6</sup> See, for example, [www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/how-the-ilo-works/ilo-director-general/WCMS\\_503716/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/how-the-ilo-works/ilo-director-general/WCMS_503716/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>7</sup> Available from [www.ilo.org/global/topics/indigenous-tribal/WCMS\\_534346/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/indigenous-tribal/WCMS_534346/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>8</sup> Available from [www.ilo.org/gender/Informationresources/Publications/WCMS\\_438854/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/gender/Informationresources/Publications/WCMS_438854/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>9</sup> See <http://redlatinoamericana.org/>.

the mandates of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. Outreach campaigns through United Nations offices at the country level contributed to spreading key principles of the Declaration, for instance through events in Cambodia, Guatemala, Kenya and Peru.

13. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs supported efforts to increase outreach and awareness-raising on indigenous peoples' rights, including statements by high-level United Nations officials in 2016, and through social media. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, organized several awareness-raising events during the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 14 to 24 March, the high-level political forum on sustainable development, held in New York from 11 to 20 July, and to commemorate the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, on 9 August, and the ninth anniversary of the Declaration, on 13 September.

14. The Equator Initiative of UNDP organized various initiatives throughout 2016, promoting the Declaration. These included outreach through social media, press conferences, several side events during the fifteenth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum, as well as organization of the Indigenous Peoples' and Communities' Pavilion: Traditional Knowledge for Climate Action at the twenty-second session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakesh in 2016.

15. UN-Women continues to raise awareness of the Declaration, including through messages to advance the rights of indigenous women and references in speeches of senior officials and by engaging prominent champions of indigenous women. Globally, UN-Women is assisting the Commission on the Status of Women in its sixty-first session, to be held in 2017, with the empowerment of indigenous women as the emerging issue/focus area. In 2016, UN-Women produced a research brief on the theme "Indigenous women and the women and peace and security agenda".<sup>10</sup> At the regional level, UN-Women has strengthened the advocacy capacities of indigenous women leaders and supported regional platforms, for instance through the third regional meeting of indigenous and Afrodescendant women communicators, held in Mexico City from 11 to 15 October 2016. Nationally, UN-Women has worked with indigenous women on outreach and events, among others, in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, India, Nepal, Mexico, Uganda and Viet Nam.

16. UNESCO supported the celebration of International Mother Language Day, on 21 February, on the theme of "Quality education, language(s) of instruction and learning outcomes". In line with Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, UNESCO has reiterated the importance of appropriate languages of instruction in the early years of schooling. Since 1999, UNESCO has supported over 35 projects involving indigenous and community radios, in promotion of multilingualism in the media, indigenous cultures and awareness-raising.

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<sup>10</sup> Available from [www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/2016/Docs-updates/WPS\\_and\\_Indigenous\\_Women\\_16\\_May.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/2016/Docs-updates/WPS_and_Indigenous_Women_16_May.pdf).

17. The United Nations Global Compact, with 12,000 signatories, including 9,000 companies as at November 2016, conducted several activities to raise awareness of the Business Reference Guide to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2013) and the Practical Supplement to the Guide (2014).

18. The World Bank organized several events during the fifteenth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum, including a presentation of the 2015 World Bank study, “Indigenous Latin America in the twenty-first century”, several side events related to climate and forests, and a case study on developing an indigenous peoples’ national development plan in Panama.

19. The secretariat of WIPO facilitates intergovernmental negotiations on the development of intellectual property-related legal instruments to ensure the balanced and effective protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions under article 31 of the Declaration. In the framework of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO, references to the Declaration are included in the working documentation, the Declaration is regularly advocated for in negotiations and it is among the key resources on the indigenous peoples and local communities portal of the WIPO web page.

## **B. Support the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly at the country level**

20. The second element of the system-wide action plan relates to national level implementation of the Declaration, including the implementation of legal frameworks and policies to further the Declaration, supporting the mainstreaming of the Declaration in national development plans and in common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and strengthening consultative mechanisms.

### **Joint initiatives**

21. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues has initiated a preliminary mapping of countries whereby agencies are engaged in supporting work on indigenous issues. Through the identification of priority countries, the aim is to coordinate national-level initiatives and maximize efforts for the implementation of the system-wide action plan and integration of indigenous issues into the common country assessments and Development Assistance Frameworks.

22. The United Nations Indigenous Peoples’ Partnership was set up in 2011 as a partnership between ILO, OHCHR, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and UNDP, with the aim of promoting progress on indigenous peoples’ rights and development at the country level. The Partnership is mentioned in the system-wide action plan as one of the key means, among others, to promote coherence and joint programming at the country level. The first five-year cycle of the Partnership came to an end on 31 December 2016 and a new phase (2.0) is planned from 1 January 2017. In May 2015, the Policy Board of the Partnership approved the transfer of the Technical Secretariat from ILO to UNDP. When identifying priority initiatives, UNIPP seeks to include

the recommendations of United Nations system expert mechanisms related to indigenous peoples — the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the ILO supervisory bodies in order to better integrate normative and operational work.

### **Individual initiatives**

23. United Nations information centres continue to reach out to the media and educational institutions and to maintain libraries and electronic information resources at the country and regional levels related to the rights of indigenous peoples.

24. Together with the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, IFAD is supporting policy engagement between indigenous peoples, governments and United Nations country teams for developing national action plans to implement the Declaration. In 2016, policy dialogues took place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador and the United Republic of Tanzania, while the process was ongoing in Myanmar, Nepal and Paraguay. El Salvador was the first country to launch its national action plan on indigenous peoples, in January 2017. At the national level, of the 11 IFAD country strategic opportunities programmes approved in the biennium, 8 (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, El Salvador, Indonesia, Paraguay, and the United Republic of Tanzania) specifically integrate indigenous peoples' issues.

25. During 2016 and 2017, ILO is implementing targeted interventions regarding indigenous and tribal peoples in Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru and the Philippines. This includes capacity-building and awareness-raising regarding Convention No. 169. The Decent Work Country Programmes are the ILO programmatic framework through which the organization contributes to the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. Gender equality and non-discrimination are cross-cutting priorities for ILO, and indigenous and tribal peoples are highlighted as a group requiring specific attention.<sup>11</sup>

26. As part of its work with the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, the Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect encourages Member States to develop policies related to groups at risk, including establishing interministerial national committees for the prevention of genocide and other atrocity crimes, the development of educational curricula for government and capacity-building. The Office is also encouraging Member States to implement the recommendations included in the annual reports of the Secretary-General on implementing the responsibility to protect.<sup>12</sup>

27. OHCHR has continued to assist national partners through a range of initiatives to reform and implement legal frameworks, policies, strategies and national action plans to achieve the ends of the Declaration, for instance in Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo,

<sup>11</sup> See [www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/program/dwcp/download/guidebook\\_20161121.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/program/dwcp/download/guidebook_20161121.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/key-documents.html>.

Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Thailand on topics related to human rights defenders, access to justice, child malnutrition, collective land titling, national action plans to implement the Declaration and follow-up to recommendations made by United Nations human rights mechanisms and other bodies.<sup>13</sup> In the discussions on a new constitution in Chile, OHCHR, together with UNDP, ILO and UNICEF, was invited to provide technical advice on participatory processes with indigenous peoples.

28. UNDP implements a wealth of programmes promoting the Declaration, by means of stand-alone targeted programmes or by mainstreaming indigenous peoples' rights in other programmes. Examples are UNDP programmes in Argentina (United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the Role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks in Developing Countries), Bangladesh (Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility), Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (strengthening the Plurinational Autonomous State and intercultural dialogue), Colombia (indigenous peoples' inclusion in peace negotiations), Costa Rica (consultation mechanisms), El Salvador (national action plan on the rights of indigenous peoples), Guatemala (transitional justice), Honduras (legal frameworks in line with the Declaration, in particular the draft bill on prior consultations) and Mexico (electoral justice). UNDP further supports indigenous peoples through the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, which provides financial and technical support to communities and civil society organizations in over 120 countries. In 2015 and 2016 at least 140 Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme projects were implemented with indigenous peoples' organizations, representing a decrease of around 25 per cent from the previous reporting period. Countries receiving funding through the Small Grants Programme with the highest reported number of projects involving indigenous peoples include Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (22), Cost Rica (14), Nepal (12), China (7), Guatemala (7), the United Republic of Tanzania (7), Malaysia (6), Palau (6), Timor-Leste (5), Indonesia (4), Argentina (3), Belize (3), Iran (3), Dominica (3) and Namibia (3).<sup>14</sup>

29. UN-Women has supported national partners in the reform and implementation of legal frameworks and policies to further the Declaration. In the Asia-Pacific region, these initiatives supported government agencies and ensured that indigenous women were consulted in relation to legislative measures in India (rights of women farmers), Nepal (development of a national position paper on indigenous women), the Philippines (policy dialogues on access to justice), Samoa (monitoring of family and domestic courts) and Viet Nam (policy review on ethnic minority women and girls). In the Americas and the Caribbean region, the initiatives focused on building the capacity of indigenous women's organizations to advocate on legal and policy reform in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Paraguay among others.

30. UNESCO has supported national partners in the field of education through the following: the Latin American Laboratory for Assessment of the Quality of Education, the Links programme;<sup>15</sup> natural sciences with work on indigenous

<sup>13</sup> See also the OHCHR full 2016 report to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

<sup>14</sup> See also the UNDP full report to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

<sup>15</sup> See [www.unesco.org/links](http://www.unesco.org/links).

knowledge and climate change in Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, as well as Canada, Norway, the Russian Federation and Sweden; social and human sciences through the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development; culture through its work on world heritage; and communication and information with the Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger.

31. United Nations Global Compact local networks undertook various measures to support the implementation of the Declaration. The Indigenous Engagement Working Group launched by the Global Compact Network Australia works to advance dialogue around business and indigenous rights. With the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and in alliance with the Ibero-American General Secretariat, the Global Compact Regional Support Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean designed a programme around business and indigenous engagement, organized multi-stakeholder dialogues around the rights of indigenous peoples and the economic empowerment of indigenous women and worked with the largest cement company in Guatemala on human rights due diligence, with a focus on indigenous communities. Sakhalin Energy in the Russian Federation (a participant in the Global Compact Network Russia), with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation, published the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, translated into the languages of the indigenous peoples of Sakhalin.<sup>16</sup>

32. The secretariat of WIPO provides intellectual property-related legal and policy information to member States on national strategies, legislation and other measures with a view to protecting traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. In addition, its programme of work includes practical training activities, tools, information resources and an advanced distance learning course, free of charge, on indigenous peoples, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.

### **C. Support the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

33. The third system-wide action plan element is focused on ensuring the rights of indigenous peoples in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including in national level programmes, in review and follow-up and in data and indicators. The main activities are as follows.

#### **Joint initiatives**

34. At its 2016 annual meeting, the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues emphasized the need for Group members and United Nations country team members to support and coordinate activities related to including indigenous peoples and ensuring their participation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Priority areas that were emphasized included producing thematic reports on indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda, coordinating programmatic

<sup>16</sup> Available from [www.simdp.ru/eng.php?id=20#](http://www.simdp.ru/eng.php?id=20#).

support at the national level and supporting methodological development related to data disaggregation, for instance by identifying core Sustainable Development Goal indicators for indigenous peoples and engaging with the Statistical Commission to develop a uniform methodology on data disaggregation according to indigenous identity.

### **Individual initiatives**

35. The Department of Public Information promoted indigenous peoples' issues and the Sustainable Development Goals through outreach at the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in July 2016, through audiovisual material,<sup>17</sup> media outreach and social media. The Department also promoted the rights of indigenous peoples in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals during the high-level segment of the seventy-first General Assembly in 2016.<sup>18</sup>

36. ECLAC has continued to generate information on the situation of indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2013 Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Population Division of ECLAC, in its capacity as the technical secretariat of the Regional Conference, supported countries in the region in the drafting of a proposal for indicators for the follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus and on the format of national progress reports.<sup>19</sup> The proposal on regional indicators contains a chapter on indigenous peoples, with indicators mainly on collective rights; the remaining chapters also explicitly refer to disaggregation for indigenous peoples. This is within the context of Sustainable Development Goal 17.18 on data disaggregation and is to be presented at the third meeting of the Regional Conference in November 2017. ECLAC, as the sponsor of the Sustainable Development Forum of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and as the technical secretariat of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, has initiated an internal review of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, which includes the feasibility and regional challenges regarding disaggregation of indicators on indigenous peoples. A document on the subject will be produced in 2017.

37. In line with the 2030 Agenda, in the new IFAD Strategic Framework 2016-2025, IFAD reaffirms its commitment to indigenous peoples' self-driven development. With reference to statistical data on indigenous peoples to monitor the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, a list of indicators was proposed to IFAD by indigenous peoples at regional workshops held in 2014 in three areas: free, prior and informed consent; traditional knowledge; and land, territories and resources. These indicators, together with data disaggregation at project level, have been considered by IFAD in reviewing its results and impact management system, which now includes data disaggregation by indigenous peoples and specific indicators.

38. The ILO strategic plan 2016-2017 is designed to ensure that the work of ILO contributes to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. In its work to build the

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<sup>17</sup> See <http://bit.ly/2aeHaBt>.

<sup>18</sup> See <http://bit.ly/2dpPUZb>.

<sup>19</sup> See <http://crpd.cepal.org/3m/en/documents>.

capacities of national statistical institutions, ILO pays attention to data disaggregation, including by ethnicity, as envisaged under the 2030 Agenda. As a partner in the global Indigenous Navigator initiative<sup>20</sup> ILO promotes community-based monitoring of indigenous peoples' rights through a framework aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. ILO also co-organized an expert meeting on indigenous persons with disabilities, in July 2016, jointly with the Special Rapporteurs on the rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of indigenous peoples and OHCHR. In 2016, ILO issued an information note on indigenous peoples and the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>21</sup>

39. OHCHR includes indigenous peoples in its efforts to assist Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through publications and activities at the national and international level. In February 2016, OHCHR released a guidance note entitled "A human rights-based approach to data: leaving no one behind in the 2030 Development Agenda".<sup>22</sup> The guidance note stresses the importance of ensuring that indigenous peoples participate in the collection and disaggregation of data on the Goals to ensure that data is relevant, accurate and collected in accordance with the Declaration, in particular articles 5, 18, 19 and 41.

40. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs provided substantive support to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in its work related to the 2030 Agenda. This included the publication of a report on the 2030 Agenda and Indigenous Peoples, a dedicated discussion on the 2030 Agenda during the annual session of the Permanent Forum and the participation of the Chair of the Permanent Forum as a lead discussant in one of the thematic debates at the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in July 2016.

41. The United Nations Development Group approach in relation to effective and coherent support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support, applies human rights-based approaches, including as relating to data and participation. UNDP supported several mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support country missions to encourage the inclusion of all groups, including indigenous peoples, in programmes related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The draft United Nations Development Assistance Framework guidance to support 2030 Agenda implementation makes reference to indigenous peoples in the principles for integrated programming on "leaving no one behind" and "human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment". The draft United Nations Development Group guidelines for country reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals also specifically address issues affecting indigenous peoples, including on data and participation/engagement.

42. UN-Women is mainstreaming indigenous women's issues and voices into its programming, including in relation to the 2030 Agenda. At the global level, this work involved the inclusion of indigenous women with disabilities in the work of UN-Women. At the regional level, the UN-Women regional office in the Americas

<sup>20</sup> See [www.indigenoustravelator.org](http://www.indigenoustravelator.org).

<sup>21</sup> Available from [www.ilo.org/global/topics/indigenous-tribal/publications/WCMS\\_503715/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/indigenous-tribal/publications/WCMS_503715/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>22</sup> Available from [www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/HRIndicators/GuidanceNoteonApproachtoData.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/HRIndicators/GuidanceNoteonApproachtoData.pdf).

and the Caribbean supported the mainstreaming of the priorities of indigenous women and Afrodescendent women into programming, including through setting up two regional working groups. At the national level, work has been carried out through country programmes on including indigenous women in relation to programmes on ancestral lands, territories and natural resources; administration of justice and indigenous customary laws; ending violence against women and girls; and on women, peace and humanitarian action.

43. UNESCO reports that the 2016 Global Education Monitoring<sup>23</sup> indicates the potential for education to propel progress towards all the goals of the 2030 Agenda. The report also highlights the importance of preserving and promoting indigenous knowledge for sustainable development and of education for indigenous peoples. UNESCO conducts household surveys in order to collect information on the ethnic, religious or linguistic groups of household members, which may be of relevance in identifying indigenous peoples. Regarding Sustainable Development Goal 6 on access to water and sanitation for all, in 2016 and 2017, the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO is supporting consultations with representatives of indigenous groups to contribute to the eighth World Water Forum, to be held in Brasilia in 2018, as well as water-related Sustainable Development Goal processes. This initiative follows up on the needs expressed by indigenous peoples' representatives in 2015.

44. Representatives from the United Nations Global Compact Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean participated at a side event of the Human Rights Council at its thirty-third session, in September 2016, on the theme "Right of indigenous peoples to free, prior, and informed consultation as a requirement for sustainable and inclusive development within the Agenda 2030". Sakhalin Energy in the Russian Federation has established a long-term partnership with the Sakhalin Indigenous Peoples and the Sakhalin Government known as the "Sakhalin Indigenous Minorities Development Plan", which was developed with respect for international standards such as the Declaration and the 2030 Agenda.

45. The WIPO secretariat's practical tools, initiatives and information resources related to the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expression seek to contribute to the practical empowerment of indigenous peoples. This is in line with the call of the 2030 Agenda to empower indigenous peoples (para. 23) and provide them with access to lifelong learning opportunities (para. 25) and equal access to education (goal 4, target 5),

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<sup>23</sup> <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002457/245752e.pdf>.

**D. Map existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources within the United Nations system, international financial institutions and the members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues for the effective implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**Joint initiatives**

46. The fourth element of the system-wide action plan seeks to map the wealth of existing information, tools, guidelines, research, training materials and resources on indigenous issues. Towards achieving this aim, a mapping exercise was initiated during the annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues in October 2016. A joint calendar of main events in 2017 is being developed, and a compilation of resources will be available at the website of the Forum.

**Individual initiatives**

47. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity refers to several standards and guidelines that are relevant to indigenous peoples, including the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Protocol makes reference to the Declaration and establishes clear obligations related to prior, informed consent and benefit-sharing related to the traditional knowledge and genetic resources of indigenous and local communities. The programme of work for the Convention on Biological Diversity has also produced some useful guidelines relevant to indigenous peoples, including the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity,<sup>24</sup> the Tkarihwaié:ri Code of Ethical Conduct to Ensure Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities,<sup>25</sup> the *Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines for the Conduct of Cultural, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment regarding Developments Proposed to Take Place on, or which are Likely to Impact on, Sacred Sites and on Lands and Waters Traditionally Occupied or Used by Indigenous and Local Communities*,<sup>26</sup> and decision XII/5 on Biodiversity for poverty eradication and sustainable development of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

48. A research guide on indigenous issues (see <http://research.un.org/en/indigenous>) was updated by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in 2016 to assist delegates, staff and academia on issues related to indigenous peoples. Through a Trello board, the Department of Public Information is compiling various United Nations media resources on indigenous issues.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Available from [www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=13375](http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=13375).

<sup>25</sup> See UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/42, available from [www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-42-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-42-en.pdf).

<sup>26</sup> Available from [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/akwe-brochure-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/akwe-brochure-en.pdf).

<sup>27</sup> Trello board with joint United Nations resources. Available from <http://bit.ly/29Q97gH>.

49. During 2016, the Population Division of ECLAC updated its System of Sociodemographic Indicators for Indigenous Peoples and Populations of Latin America to incorporate the results of the region's 2010 censuses within the main thematic areas of: population; health; territorial distribution and migration; education and culture; socioeconomic characteristics; and housing, homes and families. Microdata from Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) have been processed.

50. In its *Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples* (2009), IFAD sets out nine principles of engagement for its programmes and projects: acknowledging cultural heritage and identity as assets; applying free, prior and informed consent; enhancing community-driven development approaches; valuing indigenous peoples' knowledge; promoting equitable access to land, territories and resources; enhancing the resilience of indigenous peoples' ecosystems; promoting access to markets; empowerment; and promoting gender equality. Its "Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures" include the principle of free, prior and informed consent as a criterion for project approval. The "How to do note on seeking free, prior and informed consent in IFAD investment projects" (2015) offers further practical guidance on this. Regarding resources and funds, IFAD reports that, in 2016, its Executive Board approved 19 projects supporting indigenous and tribal peoples and ethnic minorities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. Of these 13 are loans (total funding benefiting indigenous peoples approximately \$162.8 million, with a direct contribution from IFAD of about \$93.9 million); and 6 are grants (approximately \$4.74 million).<sup>28</sup>

51. The main ILO instrument regarding indigenous peoples is the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), ratified by 22 countries. The 2013 ILO Handbook on Convention No. 169 (available from [www.ilo.org/indigenous](http://www.ilo.org/indigenous)) provides institutional guidance on the Convention for different stakeholders. Countries that have ratified Convention No. 169 or other relevant ILO conventions receive guidance regarding the application thereof from the ILO supervisory bodies, notably the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, the Committee on the Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference, and, in the case of representation under article 24 of the ILO constitution, from the Governing Body of ILO.

52. Between 2007 and 2016, OHCHR produced a range of materials on the Declaration, including guidelines and publications related to free, prior and informed consent, indigenous women and access to justice; fact sheets on indigenous peoples' rights; a manual for national human rights institutions; and reference books.<sup>29</sup>

53. On 9 August 2016, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs launched Volume III of "State of the World's Indigenous Peoples", with a focus on indigenous peoples and education. The Department has also produced reports and training modules on the rights of indigenous peoples, available from the website of the Forum, aimed at indigenous peoples and governments.

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<sup>28</sup> See also the IFAD full 2016 report to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

<sup>29</sup> See also the OHCHR full 2016 report to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

54. In 2016 UNDP launched the Social and Environmental Standards Roster of Experts and a toolkit with information about the social and environmental standards (mandatory for projects above \$500,000). Within the framework of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (see the website of the Programme at [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org)), the “Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent” and the “Legal Companion to the UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC): international law and jurisprudence affirming the requirement of FPIC” outline existing international law and emerging State practice regarding indigenous peoples’ right to effective participation in the decisions, policies and initiatives that affect them. The Programme has also produced guidelines on stakeholder engagement in REDD+ readiness with a focus on indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, and a guidance note for REDD+ countries on establishing and strengthening grievance redress mechanisms.

55. UN-Women is releasing its new Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women. The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women currently invests US\$ 2.5 million to support seven projects in six countries to end violence against indigenous women and girls. Country programmes have allocated resources towards activities targeting indigenous women in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, the Philippines and other countries.<sup>30</sup>

56. In 2016, UNESCO continued to pursue the development of a policy on engaging with indigenous peoples based on consultative workshops with indigenous peoples in Angola, Chile and Thailand and Geneva, New York and Paris. An information session with Member States was planned for 2 February 2017 in preparation for consideration of the draft policy at the 201st session of the Executive Board of UNESCO. UNESCO also continued to monitor the implementation of the right to education of indigenous peoples through regular consultations with Member States and examination of periodical reports on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) and other normative instruments. It is possible to search for “indigenous peoples” in the UNESCO Global Database on the Right to Education to gain an overview of peoples’ access to education.

57. The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has prepared a synopsis with best practices, lessons learned and available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation,<sup>31</sup> based on findings from the Nairobi work programme.<sup>32</sup> The Adaptation

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<sup>30</sup> See UN-Women, full 2016 report to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

<sup>31</sup> See [http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/4\\_synopsis\\_itkp.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/4_synopsis_itkp.pdf).

<sup>32</sup> See Report on the meeting on available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation, needs of local and indigenous communities and the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation (FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.11-2014); and technical paper on best practices and available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation, and the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for understanding and assessing impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (FCCC/TP/2013/11-2013).

Knowledge Portal provides concrete case studies, tools and knowledge resources on local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation.<sup>33</sup> Results on the advanced search page can be browse by region, adaptation sector/element and/or climate hazard.<sup>34</sup>

58. The United Nations Global Compact Business Reference Guide to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>35</sup> (2013) is aimed at increasing understanding and also provides practical suggestions to businesses on the rights of indigenous peoples. The Practical Supplement to the Reference Guide<sup>36</sup> features case studies of business initiatives that respect and support indigenous peoples' rights. Training materials have also been developed by Global Compact Local Networks.

59. In 2016, following three years of global dialogue, the Board of Directors of the World Bank approved the new World Bank Environmental and Social Framework,<sup>37</sup> which includes an updated standard on Indigenous Peoples (ESS7). The new Environmental and Social Framework will be in effect from January 2018 after an 18-month period of training and preparation.

60. The secretariat of WIPO provides training materials on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions relating to article 31 of the Declaration, which refers to intellectual property over cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, and a traditional knowledge toolkit with guidelines to support indigenous peoples in the documentation of traditional knowledge.<sup>38</sup>

## **E. Develop the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and United Nations personnel**

61. The fifth system-wide action plan action area relates to capacity-building of the main stakeholders involved in promoting the rights of indigenous peoples.

### **Joint initiatives**

62. The members of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues are committed to including indigenous issues in their ongoing capacity development programmes, to developing additional regional and national training programmes, to taking advantage of potential synergies emerging from training programmes and fellowship programmes of different agencies and to strengthening partnerships with universities and academia. There are a number of ongoing initiatives whereby the system-wide action plan has mobilized greater collaboration.

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<sup>33</sup> See <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/LITKP-page.aspx>.

<sup>34</sup> <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Home.aspx>.

<sup>35</sup> Available from [www.unglobalcompact.org/library/541](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/541).

<sup>36</sup> Available from [www.unglobalcompact.org/library/1451](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/1451).

<sup>37</sup> See [http://consultations.worldbank.org/Data/hub/files/consultation-template/review-and-update-world-bank-safeguard-policies/en/materials/the\\_esf\\_clean\\_final\\_for\\_public\\_disclosure\\_post\\_board\\_august\\_4.pdf](http://consultations.worldbank.org/Data/hub/files/consultation-template/review-and-update-world-bank-safeguard-policies/en/materials/the_esf_clean_final_for_public_disclosure_post_board_august_4.pdf).

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/tkdocumentation.html>.

### Individual initiatives

63. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity continues to provide capacity-building, principally through a capacity development strategy aimed at indigenous trainers and through their integration in capacity-building efforts of the secretariat, among others. In the 2016 training year, \$700,000 was made available through the Japan Biodiversity Fund by the Government of Japan for the facilitation of four regional training programmes on the Convention in the African, Latin American, Asian and Pacific regions, including local training grants.<sup>39</sup>

64. Training/awareness sessions on free, prior and informed consent have been delivered to 260 IFAD staff. Training and knowledge on indigenous peoples' culture, identity and self-driven development are further being promoted by some IFAD-supported projects, for example in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

65. ILO is supporting capacity-building for ILO constituents, indigenous peoples and United Nations staff in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and climate action. An interregional course on the theme "Indigenous peoples: rights and development" was held in November 2016 and country-based training is provided upon request. The ILO topical web portal on indigenous and tribal peoples was redesigned and serves as a global hub for the sharing of knowledge, tools, best practices and updates on projects.<sup>40</sup>

66. The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect has developed training modules on risk assessment and response in relation to atrocity crimes, primarily targeted at government officials from the offices of the president, ombudsmen and ministries of interior, defence and foreign affairs. The Office has also provided training to United Nations staff both in country teams and at Headquarters.

67. In June and July 2016, OHCHR conducted the annual indigenous fellowship programme in Geneva to facilitate the participation of indigenous representatives in United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms. A total of 29 indigenous representatives from 24 countries participated and also attended the ninth session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. OHCHR organized training programmes throughout South America and South-East Asia on topics relating to the Declaration, including on free, prior and informed consent, business and human rights, resource extraction, indigenous traditional justice systems and land titling.

68. UNDP supported capacity-building initiatives related to the Declaration in Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico, among other countries in the Latin American region. The Equator Initiative engaged in capacity-building activities of indigenous peoples, in particular the Equator Prize winners and indigenous peoples active in the processes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing

<sup>39</sup> See UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/2, available from [www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbi/sbi-01/information/sbi-01-inf-01-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbi/sbi-01/information/sbi-01-inf-01-en.pdf).

<sup>40</sup> See [www.ilo.org/indigenous](http://www.ilo.org/indigenous).

Countries has supported capacity-building on the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the Role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks in Developing Countries to enhance indigenous peoples' participation in related policy. A joint initiative of the Collaborative Programme and the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, known as "Support to Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+)" is supporting stakeholders at the community level to learn about and influence ongoing REDD+ readiness and climate-forest processes in six pilot countries (Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay and Sri Lanka). From 2015 to 2018, the indigenous fellowship programme of the Global Environment Facility will support 12 indigenous fellows.

69. UN-Women supported capacity-building initiatives for government and for indigenous women in economic and social empowerment and political participation. The UN-Women Strategy for Inclusion and Visibility of Indigenous Women will contribute to United Nations capacity-building initiatives for its staff by ensuring the integration of issues affecting indigenous women.

70. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs provided technical cooperation support through the Development Account project in Cambodia, Kenya, Namibia and the Philippines. The project is aimed at building the capacity of government officials and indigenous leaders to contribute to the development of policies and programmes to better integrate the rights and development priorities of indigenous peoples in line with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Through this project, briefings are also provided on the system-wide action plan to the relevant United Nations country teams. In 2016, the Development Account project produced legal, policy and administrative assessments of the situation of indigenous peoples in the four countries and provided capacity-building and national dialogue workshops in Cambodia and Kenya.

71. UNESCO has organized training on mother-tongue-based and multilingual education. The UNESCO regional office in Santiago is implementing a project on strengthening the capacity to use evidence-based data to develop inclusive policies in the Plurinational State of Bolivia (2015-2016) with a specific emphasis on indigenous learners. UNESCO also implemented a capacity-building workshop for community partners in Africa related to documenting the traditional knowledge of pastoralist peoples.

72. The United Nations Global Compact has developed the Human Rights and Business Dilemmas Forum, with a section dedicated to indigenous peoples' rights. It includes an introduction to the issue with scenarios, dilemmas and case examples.<sup>41</sup> The Global Compact's human rights training for companies and the partnerships course of the United Nations System Staff College include the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework and resources on indigenous peoples' rights.

73. The WIPO secretariat provides practical workshops, distance learning courses and training, as well as the dissemination of briefs, studies and toolkits on

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<sup>41</sup> <http://hrbdf.org/dilemmas/indigenous-peoples/#.VJLzRyvF800>.

indigenous peoples' rights (see [www.wipo.int/tk/en/indigenous](http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/indigenous)). Following three regional multi-stakeholder workshops in 2015, a workshop was organized in Morocco in 2016 for French-speaking Africa. The WIPO Indigenous Fellowship Programme provides the opportunity for an indigenous fellow to be part of the Traditional Knowledge Division of WIPO and help integrate indigenous Peoples' perspectives and interests into the work of the Organization. The programme will continue in 2017 and 2018.

## **F. Advance the participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes**

74. The sixth element of the system-wide action plan relates to taking practical steps towards increasing the participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes that affect them, including consultative mechanisms and tools for seeking free, prior and informed consent.

75. In 2016, the Presidents of the seventieth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly conducted consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples and existing relevant United Nations mechanisms on possible measures to enable the participation of indigenous peoples in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them following the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The consultations will continue in 2017 during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, after which it is expected that a draft resolution will be finalized and adopted by the General Assembly, as set out in General Assembly resolution 70/232.

76. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity works towards the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention, including at international meetings held under the Convention, and at the national level through the national reports and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. At its thirteenth meeting, held in Mexico from 4 to 17 December 2016, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the voluntary guidelines for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure the “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”, depending on national circumstances, of indigenous peoples and local communities for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge.<sup>42</sup> In 2016, a total of \$125,000 was raised for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at meetings held under the Convention, through the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, with contributions from the Governments of Australia, Germany, Mexico and New Zealand.<sup>43</sup>

77. Between November and December 2016, around 100 representatives of indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations from Asia, Africa, Latin

<sup>42</sup> CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/18.

<sup>43</sup> See [www.cbd.int/traditional/fund.shtml](http://www.cbd.int/traditional/fund.shtml).

America and the Caribbean and the Pacific, participated in the regional workshops held in preparation for the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, to be held at IFAD in February 2017. The Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility is particularly relevant in enabling indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations to determine their priorities, design and implement their own projects, enlarge partnerships and link with IFAD-supported investment projects in the field.

78. OHCHR administers the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, which supports representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and institutions to participate in meetings of all relevant United Nations bodies. In 2016, the Fund supported the attendance of a total of 94 indigenous representatives at a range of United Nations processes, including the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (25), the ninth session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (20), the Expert Workshop to review the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (14), General Assembly consultations on indigenous peoples' participation (19), as well as sessions of the Human Rights Council, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the human rights treaty bodies (16). To build the expertise of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes, the Fund also conducted induction courses and human rights training sessions in cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information.

79. The Equator Initiative of UNDP facilitated the engagement of indigenous peoples in relation to the New York Declaration on Forests; the participation of 16 indigenous persons at the twenty-second session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and of 19 Equator Prize winners from Latin America at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Global Environment Facility convened a stakeholder consultation workshop with representatives of indigenous peoples from Asia and the Pacific to discuss indigenous peoples' access to the Green Climate Fund.

80. UN-Women has supported the full and effective participation of indigenous women in a number of intergovernmental United Nations processes, including the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held in New York from 14 to 16 June 2016, and at side events, for instance during the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum, held in New York from 20 April to 1 May 2015, and the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 9 to 20 March 2015.

81. Indigenous representatives were involved in the UNESCO regional dialogue workshops on indigenous and local knowledge organized for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the regions of Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Central Asia and Europe in 2016. UNESCO also supported indigenous peoples from several regions to participate in meetings organized in the framework of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Morocco, including the International Conference on Indigenous Knowledge and Climate Change, held in Marrakesh on 2 and 3 November 2016.

82. At its twenty-second session, held in Marrakesh in 2016, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed, in its decision 1/CP.21, to adopt an incremental approach to developing the local

communities and indigenous peoples' platform, which establishes a platform for the exchange of experiences and best practices of indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to climate change.<sup>44</sup> In this regard, an open multi-stakeholder dialogue on operationalization of the platform will take place in May 2017, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat will prepare a report for further discussion by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

83. The 2015 annual report of the United Nations Global Compact Regional Support Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean contained a section on the regional status of previous consultations on ILO Convention No. 169 and lessons learned in multi-stakeholder dialogue processes.<sup>45</sup> The Regional Support Centre has also developed a web platform dedicated to free, prior and informed consent.<sup>46</sup>

84. The secretariat of WIPO, with support from Member States, has taken measures to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples as observers in the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO, through measures such as the ad hoc and fast-tracking accreditation procedure for Committee observers; the ability of indigenous participants at the Committee to take the floor on any agenda item and include their drafting proposals in the negotiated texts, provided that the proposals are supported by at least one Member State; participation in informal consultations and drafting groups with rights to speak and make proposals; the organization of an indigenous consultative forum preceding the Committee sessions; financial support from WIPO for the logistical, secretarial, interpretation and translation support provided by the Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information during the Indigenous Caucus meeting and panel presentations and participation by indigenous experts at seminars and in the plenary room.

## Conclusion

**85. The present report on progress indicates the multifaceted and diverse range of initiatives and projects that the entities of the United Nations are carrying out to implement the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As stated by the Secretary-General at the launch of the action plan, it is essential that we work as one to realize the full rights of indigenous peoples.**

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<sup>44</sup> See paragraph 135 of FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, available from <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a01.pdf>.

<sup>45</sup> [www.centroregionalmal.org/Documentos/Informe\\_de\\_Gestión2015.pdf](http://www.centroregionalmal.org/Documentos/Informe_de_Gestión2015.pdf).

<sup>46</sup> See [www.consultasindigenas.org/en](http://www.consultasindigenas.org/en).