

Lola Garcia Alix

IWGIA's statement on the study on the theme "Indigenous peoples' autonomies: experiences and perspectives"

Thank you, Madam Chair,

On behalf of IWGIA, I would like to, first, congratulate you upon your reelection as the Chair of the UNPFII. We also congratulate the new Vice-chairs and the Rapporteur.

The Permanent Forum's commitment to considering Indigenous autonomies as an expression of Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination and the collaboration established with the mandates of the UN Special Rapporteur, the EMRIP and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to further work on this topic is undoubtedly crucial to advance in the implementation of the right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination as recognized in art. 3 and 4 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The different initiatives carried out by the UN Permanent Forum on this crucial right in recent years, including the elaboration of the "Study on Indigenous Peoples' autonomies: experiences and perspectives", which was presented yesterday by the former member of the Permanent Forum, Mr. Jens Dahl, indeed has helped to reposition the discussion on how to advance in the implementation of Indigenous Peoples' right to autonomy and self-government in the agenda of international human rights mechanisms.

Undoubtedly, the study presented yesterday, which analyzes the different models of Indigenous autonomy, including challenges and opportunities, is an essential contribution to the current consideration of the implementation of the right to self-determination by other mechanisms such as EMRIP and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Both mechanisms are currently preparing reports on this issue that will be published in September this year.

Madam Chair

IWGIA would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of all the recommendations included in this report, which we hope the Permanent Forum will give due consideration and follow-up.

As IWGIA, and in the context of the operationalization of the recommendations included in the study, we would like to submit the following recommendations to the consideration of the Permanent Forum:

- Continue to pay special attention in its work to the implementation of the right of indigenous peoples to autonomy and self-government and organize a panel debate on this topic during the 21st session of the UNPFII
- Co-organize an intersessional technical seminar together with the Special Rapporteur, the EMRIP and the IACHR to jointly analyze the recommendations made in the reports of the different mechanisms on this topic and to develop a common road map that can guide their work and future collaboration to advance in the practical implementation of the right to self-government of Indigenous Peoples.
- Initiate an inclusive process to develop possible guiding principles for the implementation of the right to autonomy and self-government for Indigenous Peoples

➤ Facilitate, in cooperation with the Inter-Agency Support Group, an interactive dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and UN agencies, funds and programs to identify specific measures and actions that are required to strengthen the role of the UN System for advancing recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples right to autonomy and self-government

Thank you very much for your attention