

**6TH SESSION OF THE EXPERT MECHANISM ON
THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
GENEVA, 8-12 JULY 2013**

**Presentation of the EMRIP and Active
Participation of Delegates of Indigenous
Peoples at the 6th Session of the Expert
Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**
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SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

- The EMRIP is a subsidiary body of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and was created December 14, 2007 through Resolution *A/HRC/6/36*, replacing the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (WGIP).
- The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is held in Geneva each year in July.
- To facilitate active participation of indigenous peoples in EMRIP sessions, each year doCip organises training on the active participation of indigenous delegates.

MANDATE

The EMRIP Mandate consists of:

- Providing thematic expertise through studies and research work on the rights of indigenous peoples. This work is based on information provided by all observers: representatives of Indigenous Peoples as well as those of States. **It is therefore very important that indigenous organisations respond to information requests from EMRIP experts.**
- Proposing study themes and recommendations for consideration and approval by the HRC.
- Other proposals presented for consideration and approval by the Human Rights Council.
- The EMRIP also has an indirect mandate to "promote and respect the UNDRIP".

The EMRIP cannot:

- Receive or transmit complaints or denunciations. These fall within the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (SRIP)
- Develop new standards
- Address situations by country
- Adopt resolutions or decisions

COMPOSITION

- It is **composed of 5 independent experts**, of indigenous origin if possible, named for a period of three years, renewable once.
- The 2013 members:
 - 1) Mr. Danfred Titus (South Africa):
 - 2) Ms. Jannie Lasimbang (Malaysia): 2014
 - 3) Mr. Wilton Littlechild (Canada): 2014
 - 4) Mr. Albert Deterville (Saint Lucia):
 - 5) Mr. Alexey Tsykarev (Russian Federation):

METHOD OF WORKING

- The EMRIP meets once a year for five days in public and private sessions (three days in 2008)
 - The following individuals/institutions participate **as observers**:
 - ✓ States, mechanisms
 - ✓ Specialised institutions and bodies
 - ✓ United Nations funds and programmes
 - ✓ Intergovernmental organisations
 - ✓ Regional organisations and mechanisms in the area of human rights
 - ✓ National human rights institutions and other relevant national agencies
 - ✓ Academics and experts on indigenous issues
 - ✓ NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
 - ✓ Indigenous Peoples' organisations and NGOs
- Each participant should register online in advance of the session in order to access UN facilities by presenting a badge

METHOD OF WORKING

- ⦿ Takes into account an ongoing agenda on the implementation of the UNDRIP at the regional and national level
- ⦿ Open participation
- ⦿ Adoption of officers with an agenda of the session
- ⦿ Chairperson changes each year

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◉ Study on the right of indigenous peoples to education (2008-2009)
- ◉ Study on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making (2010-2011)
- ◉ Study on the role of languages and culture in the promotion and protection of the rights and identity of indigenous peoples (2012-2013)
- ◉ Intersession meetings with governments; collaborations with the SR, treaty bodies, UNPFII
- ◉ Etc.

AGENDA ITEMS OF THE 2013 SESSION

Eight items are included in the agenda of the July 2013 session

- Item 1: Election of officers
- Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organisation of work
- Item 3: World Conference on Indigenous Peoples
- Item 4: Follow-up to thematic studies and advice
- Item 5: Study on access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples
- Item 6: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Item 7: Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval
- Item 8: Adoption of the report

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SPEECH

- ⦿ **As soon as possible, have your name registered on the list of speakers by presenting your badge (as a representative of your organisation) at the desk of the Secretariat of the EMRIP, which is located in the meeting room. Indicate the agenda item on which you wish to make an intervention.**
- ⦿ **The Chairperson usually sets a registration deadline for interventions on each agenda item. Find out what this deadline is.**

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SPEECH

- ◉ When the list of speakers for the chosen agenda item is posted in the meeting room, check that the name of your organisation appears there, and note where on the list it appears in order to be prepared when you are given the floor.
- ◉ **Make 15 copies of your intervention** and distribute them to the Secretariat, to the interpreters and to other organisations, as well as to the Technical Secretariat of doCip, which collects all of the interventions for posting online on its Internet site: www.docip.org.

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SPEECH

- ◉ When your name is called by the Chairperson during the session, raise your hand, turn on the microphone, state the name of your organisation and read your intervention, while scrupulously adhering to your time allotment (**5 minutes**). **Speak slowly** to allow for good interpretation.
- ◉ **Attention:** If you are not in the room when the Chairperson calls on you, you lose your speaking time. Please be at your place well in advance of your allotted time, as prior speakers could forfeit their time, which would move up your turn.

PRESENTATION OF AN ORAL INTERVENTION

- ◉ **Content of the intervention:** name, organisation and agenda item relevant to your intervention, brief greetings, a brief introduction and a brief statement of the situation. Above all, it is important that you get **straight to the point** and provide exact and verified information.
- ◉ **Practice in advance by slowly reading your intervention aloud** to make sure that you are within the time limit (**5 minutes**) and to allow the interpreters to simultaneously translate your presentation well. Plan which parts you should cut in case the time limit must be reduced.
- ◉ Be sure to use diplomatic and non-abusive language, for example, by using the official terminology of any country names cited in your intervention.

OTHER EVENTS

1) The Indigenous Caucus: Participation is strongly recommended

- ◉ The Indigenous Caucus meetings bring together—and are open to—all indigenous delegates present.
- ◉ They represent a unique opportunity for indigenous delegates to meet for exchange of information and experiences.
- ◉ During the Caucus meetings, indigenous delegates develop **joint declarations, positions and recommendations**, which are often taken into consideration by the EMRIP.

OTHER EVENTS (CONT'D)

- ◉ The Caucus meetings take place the weekend before the EMRIP and often also in the evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. To learn when these meetings are held during the session, please contact the Technical Secretariat of doCip. The meetings are interpreted in English, Spanish, French and Russian by doCip, with support from IWGIA for English and Spanish.
- ◉ **The discussions that take place during the Caucus meetings are confidential.**

OTHER EVENTS (CONT'D)

2) Cultural and side events

- ◉ A number of side events are held during the session.
- ◉ They take place between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m., and sometimes after 6:00 p.m. They may be organised by indigenous delegations, international organisations, NGOs, etc. A list of side events is distributed at the beginning of the session by the EMRIP Secretariat and may also be found at the Technical Secretariat of doCip.
- ◉ To organise side events, it is necessary to register in advance of the session through the EMRIP Secretariat.

OTHER EVENTS (CONT'D)

3) Scheduled appointments with the SR

- ⦿ It is possible to meet with the Special Rapporteur during the session
- ⦿ It is necessary to make the appointment in advance
- ⦿ It is necessary to provide information that falls within his mandate, including allegations of violations of the rights of indigenous peoples in a brief and concise way.

4) Building networks and alliances

- ⦿ There are several IP organisations participating, which creates an opportunity to establish networks and alliances

TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF DOCIP

- ◎ **doCip provides considerable technical support to indigenous delegates during the session**
- ✓ computers and Internet access
- ✓ translation of texts to and from English, Spanish, French and Russian
- ✓ interpretation of Caucus meetings, side events and informal conversations
- ✓ photocopies, sending and receiving of faxes
- ✓ collection of interventions for publication on doCip's website
- ✓ information on the UN system.