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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: implementation by the United Nations system

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report provides a brief compilation of the information received from United Nations system entities and other intergovernmental bodies in response to a questionnaire on actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the system-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The complete responses are available at www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouseoples/unpfii-sessions-2/19th-session-2020.html.

* E/C.19/2020/1.



I. Introduction

1. At each of its annual sessions, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues makes recommendations relating to indigenous peoples. The members of the Forum members have often stated that the implementation of the Forum's recommendations must make a difference in the daily lives of indigenous peoples. An important tool for assessing the degree to which the recommendations have been implemented is the information submitted to the Forum by entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies. The Forum acknowledges and thanks those entities that have provided reports and urges them to continue to provide information on their activities and on the follow-up to the recommendations of the Forum and the system-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum also encourages agencies, funds and programmes that have not done so to provide reports on their work with indigenous peoples.

2. A questionnaire on actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Forum and the system-wide action plan was sent to 50 entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies in November 2019. As at 15 January 2020, responses had been received from the following 21 entities: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Department of Global Communications, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO), Organization of American States (OAS), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The complete responses are available at www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions-2/19th-session-2020.html.

3. Of the 21 entities that provided responses, 18 reported that they conducted activities to raise awareness of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; 17 reported that they supported the implementation of the Declaration, particularly at the country level; and 16 reported that they supported the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, 14 of the entities reported that they mapped existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources within the United Nations system, international financial institutions and the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues for the effective implementation of the Declaration; 15 noted that they developed the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and United Nations personnel; and 14 reported that they advanced the participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes.

II. Responses received from United Nations entities and other intergovernmental bodies on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum and the system-wide action plan

Asian Development Bank

4. The first operational priority of Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific of ADB, on addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequality, supports the ADB vision of a prosperous, inclusive, resilient and sustainable Asia and the Pacific. Operational priority 1 supports the aim of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to tackle poverty and inequality and leave no one behind. A key premise of the Sustainable Development Goals is to support the poorest and most vulnerable people, including indigenous peoples and/or ethnic minorities, who are unable to fully participate in and benefit from economic and social development.

Department of Global Communications

5. As the lead entity for the implementation of the first element of the system-wide action plan, the Department of Global Communications continued to chair an inter-agency working group of communications professionals from across the United Nations system, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, FAO, IFAD, the International Organization for Migration, OHCHR, WHO/PAHO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to raise awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples through consistent messaging and coordinated outreach across the United Nations system. The working group has been meeting regularly since April 2016 and continues to implement its joint communications strategy, including a set of key messages and a range of promotional products in multiple languages, such as digital cards, videos and backgrounders. A shared online platform established in 2016 continues to serve as the main tool for sharing and cross-promoting content.

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

6. The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs has proactively sought to engage with the three United Nations mechanisms promoting the human rights of indigenous peoples within the United Nations system (namely, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous people, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues) to discuss challenges to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the system-wide action plan, and to exchange views on country-specific situations. The Department has also increased exchanges on indigenous issues with relevant permanent missions to the United Nations in New York.

7. As a member of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues, the Department shares information and provides input on matters related to conflict prevention and indigenous issues. In particular, the Department was represented at the annual meeting of the Group held in September 2019 in Geneva, which served as an opportunity for the members of the Group to strategically engage with the Development Coordination Office to improve the implementation and accountability of the system-wide action plan across all resident coordinator offices and United Nations country teams in the context of the United Nations reform.

8. At Headquarters, the Americas Division, in its capacity as the Department's focal point on indigenous issues, organized a lunch-time seminar on indigenous languages and conflict prevention on the International Day of the World's Indigenous People. The objective was to reflect on the importance of mediators who spoke an indigenous language (or interpreters also trained as cultural mediators) to manage conflicts among indigenous communities, even if they also spoke a mainstream language. Language represents a complex system of knowledge, instrumental to building trust and understanding among the parties. Participants underscored the need to re-design initiatives preserving indigenous languages to target both indigenous and non-indigenous communities to ensure a holistic approach to multiculturalism.

9. The Americas Division also followed closely requests made by the Government of Chile to the United Nations country team in Chile to participate as observers in consultation processes regarding the introduction of curricula on indigenous peoples' language and culture in elementary education and legislation regarding land tenure. The Division further facilitated contact with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to provide expert advice on specific issues to the Resident Coordinator.

10. The Americas Division has also been following closely the situation of indigenous women in the region. A meeting was held with Tarcila Rivera, an expert on indigenous peoples and member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to exchange views about indigenous peoples in the Americas, with an emphasis on the challenges facing indigenous women.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

11. The commitment of ECLAC to advancing the rights and inclusion of indigenous peoples is reflected in position documents, resolutions and intergovernmental agreements of the subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings of ECLAC, in particular the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) includes explicit references to indigenous peoples.

12. Regarding the right to information, ECLAC has continued to strengthen national capacities to better include indigenous peoples in the collection of national statistics, particularly in censuses, working with both public agencies and indigenous peoples' organizations. In this regard, during 2019, technical assistance was provided to Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Panama and a study was published containing recommendations on the inclusion of indigenous peoples in the 2020 census round, into which the regional experience of the past decades will be incorporated. ECLAC also carried out a training session on the use and analysis of census information, with a focus on indigenous peoples and gender, in Guatemala, based on the results of the 2018 census, and workshops on the empowerment of indigenous organizations to participate in the censuses of Argentina and Ecuador. ECLAC conducted a technical needs assessment survey of Caribbean countries to determine their proposed plans and technical needs for the 2020 census round as a basis for assessing the viability of the census to produce data for the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, including the ones related to indigenous peoples. Furthermore, progress made and challenges faced by countries of the region in

promoting the well-being of these groups and the enjoyment of their human rights have been included in the quadrennial, second and first reports on progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda.

13. The System of Sociodemographic Indicators for Indigenous Peoples and Populations of Latin America was updated for online consultation. Moreover, the actions carried out by ECLAC with regard to the Sustainable Development Goal indicators explicitly include the disaggregation of data on indigenous peoples, in particular actions related to the strengthening of national capacities for their production. In addition, the countries of the region have adopted 16 indicators of collective rights of indigenous peoples for the follow-up to the Montevideo Consensus, which complement the 2030 Agenda and respond to the concerns of indigenous peoples. During 2019, progress was made in defining the metadata for a set of selected indicators, and pilot testing of those metadata is planned in some countries of the region.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

14. More than 100 indigenous peoples currently work at FAO (including two at the Director level, one at the Chief level and several technical officers). FAO provides secretariat services to the newly created Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples, which will gather representatives of 17 countries in Rome to discuss indigenous issues. Moreover, 48 per cent of FAO projects funded by the Global Environmental Facility involve indigenous peoples. The Global Campaign for the Empowerment of Indigenous Women for Zero Hunger, carried out under the leadership of FAO, now has 100 participating organizations, including Rome-based agencies the World Food Programme and IFAD. More than 350 people have been trained in the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

15. FAO has created three new working groups: Amazonía Indígena (with IFAD and the Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations in the Amazon Basin); Arctic; and a group to work on indigenous peoples' collective rights. The Arctic group was created following a request made during the Expert Seminar on Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Peoples' Fisheries in the Arctic, held in Rome on 23 and 24 September 2019, which was attended by indigenous women and men from the Arctic region.

16. FAO has been supporting the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Sustainable Development Goals at the country level, including through its support for the development and implementation of policies and plans on indigenous peoples in Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Paraguay and Peru. Indigenous peoples in more than 15 countries received assistance with regard to forestry monitoring. In relation to Sustainable Development Goal 2, on food security, FAO has been monitoring two pilot projects in the context of a food insecurity experience scale in El Salvador and Panama. Representatives of indigenous peoples have participated in the projects, and positive results have been noted. FAO has further conducted studies on land tenure and legal frameworks in Asia (Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam).

International Fund for Agricultural Development

17. A milestone in the 2019 engagement of IFAD with indigenous peoples was the fourth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, on the theme "Indigenous peoples' knowledge and innovations for climate resilience and sustainable development". Four regional consultation workshops were held – in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific – in late 2018 in preparation for the

meeting. The global meeting brought together 38 indigenous peoples' representatives, of whom 45 per cent were women and 24 per cent were aged under 35. They exchanged views on developments in terms of partnership with IFAD. Over 40 representatives of partner organizations such as non-governmental organizations, foundations, international organizations, United Nations agencies, research institutes and universities joined the meeting as observers. Representatives of indigenous peoples' institutions, together with staff of the regional divisions of IFAD, discussed and agreed upon regional action plans for the period 2019–2020. The synthesis of deliberations of the forum was delivered and discussed by indigenous delegates during the last plenary meeting of the Forum; that meeting was also attended by representatives of the management of IFAD and representatives of IFAD member States.

18. The fourth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum was also an occasion to create awareness of the Indigenous Peoples Policy of the Green Climate Fund, and to continue dialogue with the indigenous peoples' advocacy team on exploring how to mobilize resources for the Green Climate Fund and other climate finance opportunities in support of indigenous peoples. Participants highlighted that it would be key for IFAD to provide resources to further enhance the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through the Green Climate Fund; a specific recommendation on that was made to IFAD by the Forum's participants. In accordance with that recommendation, in September 2019, the Latin America and Caribbean Division of IFAD hired two consultants to develop a strategy and road map for enhancing indigenous peoples' access to international environmental funding, including, but not limited to, the Green Climate Fund.

19. The fifth call for proposals for the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility was launched in April 2018 with the aim of fostering indigenous peoples' self-driven development, within the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, by strengthening their communities and organizations. Of the 700 proposals received from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2019 the Facility's Board approved 35 small projects, ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000, lasting up to two years. This new cycle of the Facility is focused on indigenous youth and prioritizes projects that build their capacities in four areas: (a) food security and nutrition; (b) access and rights to land, territories and resources; (c) access to markets; and (d) climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Facility's orientation and inception workshops, successfully organized by the Samburu Women Trust in Kenya in April 2019 and by Tebtebba in the Philippines in August 2019, were important capacity-development training opportunities for grant recipients. Subsequently, the Facility's links were created between IFAD country programme managers, IFAD regional focal points on indigenous peoples and tribal issues and regional partners (the International Indigenous Women's Forum, the Samburu Women Trust and Tebtebba) to explore opportunities for future partnerships in the implementation of the projects.

International Labour Organization

20. The centenary of ILO, in 2019, coincided with the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). The anniversary offered a timely occasion for highlighting and reflecting on the opportunities and challenges related to the Convention's ratification and effective implementation, and for promoting dialogue on the way forward. The work of ILO to promote indigenous peoples' rights and well-being continues to be guided by a dedicated strategy for action, which was complemented in March 2019 by a strategic

plan for engagement with United Nations system bodies and relevant regional organizations.

21. The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations issued a general observation on the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, taking stock of progress observed and remaining challenges for its effective implementation. ILO launched a compilation of excerpts from comments and reports of the ILO supervisory bodies related to the Convention and online access to the supervisory bodies' work related to the Convention and to the Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107).

22. On 18 and 19 July 2019, the first global dialogue on the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention was held at ILO headquarters, in Geneva. It was attended by representatives of Governments and workers' and employers' organizations from Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nepal, Norway and Peru, along with observers from 22 permanent missions. The dialogue provided a space for interaction between the tripartite constituents of ILO, the ILO supervisory bodies and United Nations mechanisms on indigenous peoples, including the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and a member of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Participants agreed on the key importance of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention and encouraged the holding of similar dialogues in the future.

23. Serving as Co-Chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues for 2019, ILO hosted the Group's annual meeting at ILO headquarters. The meeting included discussions with the Director General of ILO, representatives of the Government of Mexico, the International Organization of Employers and the International Trade Union Confederation, as well as the United Nations mechanisms on indigenous peoples. Members of the Group explored various topics through technical round tables, including consultation, participation and consent; environmental and social safeguards and indigenous people; traditional knowledge; indicators on lands, territories and natural resources; the 2030 Agenda and United Nations reform; and the follow-up to recommendations by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The discussions contributed to building a common understanding of and approaches to ensuring effective collaboration and coherent United Nations system action related to indigenous peoples, in the light of the ongoing United Nations reform.

24. A regional forum and tripartite workshop on the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention that was held in Lima in December 2019 brought together representatives of Governments and workers' and employers' organizations from 11 countries of the region, along with indigenous peoples' representatives and representatives of civil society, the diplomatic community and development partners. A new virtual learning platform on the Convention, prepared in cooperation with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, was launched. ILO presented findings from its new global report, prepared for the Convention's anniversary, including global and regional estimates on indigenous peoples' population and socioeconomic gaps experienced by them. Indigenous women have the lowest scores for all socioeconomic indicators. In the report, the need for appropriate institutional and legal frameworks for consultation with and participation of indigenous peoples, both indigenous women and men, as a critical means for securing progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, was stressed. ILO has been responding to requests for technical assistance regarding the Convention in several countries in Latin America, including Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Peru.

25. The ILO global thematic portal on indigenous and tribal peoples features available tools and publications related to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention and the work of ILO to promote the rights and improve the well-being of indigenous and tribal peoples, including a new Convention toolbox. The development of web-based tools and guidance for enhanced ratification and implementation of the Convention is priority for ILO action in the period 2020–2021, along with country-level support for building mechanisms, institutions and legislative frameworks for consultation and participation of indigenous and tribal peoples and their economic empowerment.

Organization of American States

26. In order to achieve the implementation of the system-wide action plan, OAS sought to put into practice the goals contained in the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017–2021), with the mission of promoting public administrative, legislative, judicial and budgetary policies to ensure that indigenous peoples in the Americas enjoy and exercise all of their rights. Within an intersectional context, the Plan of Action is aimed at adopting a gender perspective to promote the empowerment and visibility of indigenous women. The Plan of Action is intended to promote the creation of policies that value and acknowledge ethnic and cultural diversity.

27. OAS also encouraged its member States to develop and implement, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, policies, programmes and projects for the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples.

28. Notably, on 30 August 2018, Venezuelan activist, actor and model Patricia Velásquez was designated by OAS as Goodwill Ambassador for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas during a ceremony at OAS headquarters, in Washington, D.C.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

29. The report *Linking Indigenous Communities with Regional Development* includes reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including its provisions on free, prior and informed consent. The report primarily focuses on the right of indigenous peoples to development and provides guidance for OECD member countries to improve in four areas, namely: (a) indigenous statistical frameworks and data governance; (b) support for entrepreneurs and small business (including access to finance, financial literacy and public procurement); (c) indigenous land governance to support indigenous business and economic development; and (d) multi-governance in ways that empower local and regional indigenous organizations.

30. The report includes a discussion on the need to make the Sustainable Development Goals and related well-being frameworks more inclusive of indigenous values and perspectives, focusing on how to include indicators related to aspects such as indigenous language and culture, leadership and kinship relations, subsistence and access to land and water. The report highlights examples of how different jurisdictions have addressed those issues, and what others can learn from them.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

31. OHCHR carried out several activities to implement the six components of the system-wide action plan. The work of the Office was focused on raising awareness of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples and United Nations country teams and

advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes. Considering the persistent lack of indigenous peoples' participation in decision-making and increasing violence against indigenous human rights defenders worldwide, the Office has stepped up its efforts to facilitate dialogue between indigenous peoples and State authorities in several countries. OHCHR engaged with State authorities to address forced evictions of indigenous peoples from their traditional lands, including through support for the implementation of national and regional court decisions on the topic. It provided support to legislative and policy changes in matters ranging from access to justice, culturally appropriate education, land rights and the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples.

32. OHCHR has engaged with resident coordinators' offices and United Nations country teams in several countries to integrate the rights of indigenous peoples into country-level programming and raise awareness further of the system-wide action plan on the rights of indigenous peoples. The Office further provided technical guidance on the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, notably for the development of national action plans on business and human rights that take into account the rights of indigenous peoples affected by business activities and infrastructure projects.

33. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights regularly highlighted the concerns of indigenous peoples in their country visits, statements and other work, with a focus on indigenous human rights defenders, particularly women.

34. In the lead-up to the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Madrid in December 2019, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights advocated for a human rights-based approach to global policies and measures designed to address climate change and consistently stressed the importance of ensuring the meaningful and informed participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making. Special emphasis was placed on the heightened risk of exposure of indigenous women and girls to climate and environmental harms, and the need to ensure that their right to raise their voices and effectively share in decision-making was protected and upheld.

35. In the context of the 2030 Agenda, OHCHR continued to systematically advocate for the meaningful and inclusive participation of indigenous peoples in the implementation and monitoring of and reporting on the 2030 Agenda and to provide support on the human rights-based approach to data, which has significant implications for measuring progress or obstacles in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with regard to indigenous peoples.

36. Building on the work conducted in 2018, OHCHR has strategically engaged with the high-level political forum on sustainable development and collaborated with the indigenous peoples major group. Lastly, the work of OHCHR is further guided by the thematic reports, studies and recommendations of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the human rights treaty bodies.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

37. In 2017, the Executive Board of UNESCO noted with satisfaction that the UNESCO policy on engaging with indigenous peoples harmonized the mandated programme work of UNESCO with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. During 2019, all sectors of UNESCO engaged in activities related to the International Year of Indigenous Languages. UNESCO served as the

lead United Nations agency for the organization of the International Year, which is covered in a separate report to the Permanent Forum.

38. In October 2019, the Director General appointed the Mexican actor Yalitza Aparicio as the UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Indigenous Peoples. Her priorities are human rights, dignity, indigenous languages and the rights of domestic workers.

39. Each sector of UNESCO has contributed to the implementation of the system-wide action plan. Some regional offices have been particularly engaged on the topic. Notably, the office in Santiago has worked on intercultural and multilingual education, including the mobilization of indigenous knowledge systems. The office in Montevideo has concentrated on indigenous engagement in the Man and the Biosphere Programme, which includes components on indigenous knowledge and culture. The office in Bangkok has engaged in a series of educational events, including events on multilingualism and inclusivity. At UNESCO headquarters, in Paris, work has focused on indigenous knowledge of biodiversity, ecosystems and climate change and on contributing to the workplan of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform established by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-first session. The Natural Sciences Sector hosts the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Technical Support Unit on Indigenous and Local Knowledge. This has facilitated numerous dialogues between indigenous peoples and authors of scientific works. The interaction between the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, UNESCO and indigenous peoples is contributing to methodological norms that are relevant across the United Nations system.

40. Issues related to indigenous peoples have been progressively addressed in the operational guidelines of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which were revised again at the forty-third session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Baku in June 2019. The International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on World Heritage is a self-constituted body that officially engages with the World Heritage Committee and the World Heritage Centre. An event with indigenous peoples on the role of languages and knowledge systems in site conservation was held on the margins of the forty-third session of the Committee.

41. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage organized a forum with indigenous peoples during its fourteenth session, held in Bogotá from 9 to 14 December 2019.

42. With the support of the Social and Human Sciences Sector of UNESCO, the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities has drafted resolutions specific to the rights of indigenous peoples and inclusivity.

43. As part of the celebrations of the International Year of Indigenous Languages, issues related to multilingualism and the linguistic diversity of indigenous peoples have been highlighted by the Communication and Information Sector, in cooperation with other sectors.

44. An intersectoral working group on indigenous peoples helps share information within UNESCO on indigenous peoples' engagement in specific programmes, activities, platforms, conventions, commissions and consultative forums.

United Nations Children's Fund

45. Indigenous children are often among the most disadvantaged groups, with some of the lowest scores on social and economic indicators. The rights of these children and their communities continue to be compromised across the globe. UNICEF has

contributed to the achievement of several actions under the system-wide action plan and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. With the dedicated work of offices in several countries, UNICEF continues to engage in actions to tackle challenges faced by indigenous children and communities, focusing on the following areas:

(a) Educational systems and access to culturally sensitive education: in line with article 14 of the Declaration, UNICEF supports Governments in increasing access to and strengthening the quality of the education provided to indigenous children, fostering intercultural and multilingual approaches;

(b) Health and nutrition: in line with article 24 of the Declaration, UNICEF works to strengthen health systems and the capacities of health professionals working in indigenous communities, contributing to making community-based health services, when possible, more sensitive to traditional practices;

(c) Participation in decision-making: in line with articles 18 and 23 of the Declaration, UNICEF continues to foster the participation of indigenous children and adolescents in decision-making processes about issues that have an impact on their lives and continues to collect their inputs about national or local development priorities;

(d) Identity and citizenship: in line with article 33 of the Declaration, UNICEF works to improve access to civil registration of indigenous children in several countries, cognizant of the fact that in many situations these are the groups with the lowest rates of birth registration;

(e) Child protection: UNICEF works around the world to strengthen justice systems, as well as juvenile justice, to ensure equitable access to justice to all, including for indigenous children who are victims of crime or in conflict with the law. UNICEF also supports the establishment or reinforcement of child protection systems, ensuring that children at risk or victims of violence, abuse or exploitation, including indigenous children, receive adequate support;

(f) Social protection: programmes supported by UNICEF worldwide involve contributions to initiatives implemented by national Governments, especially policies for cash transfer or long-term strategies aimed at reducing multidimensional poverty. UNICEF continuously advocates for the inclusion of indigenous children, who are often those most left behind, into those initiatives, including through targeted interventions;

(g) Protection from discrimination: as exemplified above and in line with this overarching principles of the Declaration, UNICEF advocates for stronger national systems that provide services without discrimination of any kind. In support of this effort, a critical element is the production of quality disaggregated data, which not only allows duty bearers to identify the most vulnerable indigenous groups but also facilitates the accurate monitoring of progress towards fulfilling their rights;

(h) Advocacy and campaigning on indigenous rights outside programme countries: UNICEF national committees in developed countries carry out several initiatives to raise public awareness about and advocate for the rights of indigenous children.

United Nations Development Programme

46. UNDP continues to be committed to the implementation of the system-wide action plan at the global, regional and country levels. Standard 6 of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, on indigenous peoples (together with the related project-level screening procedure), remains an integral component of the UNDP

quality assurance process and further operational guidance was developed to support implementation of that Standard.

47. Through its role as custodian of indicator 16.7.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on proportionate representation in public institutions, UNDP is promoting an approach to data disaggregation that takes into account indigenous status and identities in order to ensure that indigenous peoples play a greater role in political decision-making – including in parliamentary politics – and that public decision-making is more responsive to the aspirations of indigenous communities.

48. The Equator Prize 2019 honoured 22 local and indigenous communities from all over the world. Indigenous peoples remain a high priority group for the Small Grants Programme of the Global Environment Facility.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

49. The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has been implementing the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, in alignment with system-wide action plan. Item 7 of the Platform’s initial two-year workplan is aimed at mapping existing policies and practices for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change-related bodies and processes under and outside of the Convention. Item 9 of the workplan is to map existing policies, actions and communications, including nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and other relevant policies and communications under the Convention, with respect to whether and how they incorporate consideration and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities.

50. Item 4 of the workplan is to build capacity for engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in relevant work under and outside of the Convention through annual thematic training workshops. The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform is becoming a trusted and inclusive space where indigenous peoples, local communities and parties come together to build a climate change-resilient world for all.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme

51. The New Urban Agenda provides a framework for realizing the rights of indigenous peoples in urban spaces. In the Agenda, UN-Habitat and others are encouraged to generate evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the Agenda and the urban dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals, in close collaboration with Member States, local authorities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as well as through the mobilization of experts. The New Urban Agenda has three paragraphs that reflect the urgency of prioritizing the rights and living conditions of indigenous peoples: (a) in paragraph 20, the need to give attention to addressing the multiple forms of discrimination faced by vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, is recognized; (b) in paragraph 48, effective participation and collaboration of stakeholders engaged with indigenous rights to identify opportunities for urban economic development and identify and address existing and emerging challenges is encouraged; and (c) in paragraph 125, Member States expressed support for the leveraging of cultural heritage for sustainable urban development and recognized its role in stimulating participation and responsibility; they also committed to promoting the innovative and sustainable use of architectural monuments and sites, with the intention of value creation, through respectful restoration and adaptation. The engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the promotion and dissemination of knowledge of tangible and intangible cultural heritage is central to this clause.

52. In addition, UN-Habitat has adopted the “housing at the centre” approach in its modification and re-evaluation of national housing policies and strategies.

Unregulated national housing policies have shown to normalize and legalize the exclusion of vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, from housing frameworks and welfare systems within cities and countries. The adoption by UN-Habitat of the housing at the centre approach allows for the repositioning of housing at the core of sustainable development. It emphasizes the need to place vulnerable communities such as indigenous peoples at the centre of sustainable urban development.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

53. UNIDO, as a specialized agency on industrial development in the United Nations system, operationalizes the Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies and Procedures as part of its technical cooperation project compliance and project assurance process. Indigenous peoples are the focus of one of the operational safeguards of those Policies and Procedures. As such, projects are screened early on for the presence of indigenous people in the project area, who are identified through criteria that reflect their social and cultural distinctiveness. Such criteria may include self-identification and identification by others as indigenous peoples, collective attachment to land, presence of customary institutions, indigenous language and primarily subsistence-oriented agricultural production.

54. All proposed projects that involve indigenous people are categorized as category A projects. The project development team will oversee the development of environmental and social impact assessment studies and specialists will be retained to assist in specific issues related to indigenous people. Those studies allow for the identification and assessment of potential opportunities for, risks to and impact (direct, indirect, cumulative and pre-mitigation) on indigenous people.

55. During project implementation, management conditions will be applied, and these will be monitored during the implementation of the project. UNIDO ensures that the project development team recruits independent and experienced social science experts to undertake such monitoring as is required by the environmental and social impact assessment.

56. UNIDO thus ensures that, consistent with the rights and responsibilities set forth in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other international law relating to indigenous peoples, projects are designed and implemented in such a way that fosters full respect for indigenous people and their dignity, human rights and cultural uniqueness so that they receive culturally appropriate social and economic benefits and do not suffer adverse effects during the development process.

57. UNIDO also ensures that other interacting forms of discrimination are taken into account in its projects and programmes. Through frameworks such as its Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the period 2020–2023, UNIDO ensures that its projects and programmes respond to women and men's different and intersecting needs, taking into account age, disability, gender identities, race, ethnicity, language, religion, education, economic status, social norms, etc.

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

58. Each edition of the UNITAR Training Programme to Enhance the Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples' Representatives includes a session conducted by an indigenous expert, focusing on challenges and successes in the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national, regional and international levels, as well as documentation and reports on the Declaration. Recent UNITAR training programmes and briefings have included a review of progress and challenges in Africa, North America, the Pacific and internationally.

59. Indigenous representatives are provided with training on the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, related conventions and constructive negotiation processes to use in dialogue at the country level to further their rights and improve their well-being.

60. Indigenous representatives participating in the UNITAR peacemaking programme enhance their capacities to promote well-being and contribute to inclusive peace, development and governance processes. The active engagement of indigenous women is sought, both as resource persons and participants. An indigenous woman is invited from each programme to chair the Participants' Forum, showcasing innovative approaches in empowering women and youth and engaging in peace and development processes. Two women and two men are invited to share their lessons learned and strategies and youth representatives are also invited. Three indigenous women working on access for indigenous peoples with disabilities took part in the peacemaking programme in 2019. The UNITAR programme enhances the capacities of indigenous peoples to engage constructively through dialogue, advocacy and negotiation, including on policy reform, to improve the well-being of indigenous peoples. UNITAR knowledge products on conflict prevention and mediation are provided at each training session.

61. The work of UNITAR contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16, on promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies, and target 5.5 of the Goals, on enhancing women's participation in peace and decision-making processes. To date, 2,429 mid- and senior-level officials from States, regional organizations and the United Nations and 539 indigenous representatives have been trained. UNITAR was also requested to develop dedicated training programmes in peacemaking and conflict prevention for women. The first edition of the UNITAR Training Programme on Strengthening the Capacities of African Women Peacemakers was organized in Addis Ababa in 2018 and was attended by 33 senior and mid-level female officials. During UNITAR training programmes, government officials and staff from the United Nations and regional organizations participate in sessions on inclusive peace and governance, and on addressing the root causes of conflict. They are briefed on the Institute's dedicated training programme for indigenous representatives to enhance capacities in conflict prevention, conflict analysis, negotiation and reconciliation. Indigenous Fellows in training with OHCHR are regularly invited to participate in UNITAR training sessions on peacemaking and conflict prevention. If funding is not available in a particular year, a UNITAR briefing is organized as a side event at the annual sessions of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with indigenous alumni participating in a panel discussion and sharing lessons learned from applying methodologies from the training to their work on behalf of their peoples and nations, as well as to their roles as members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues or the Expert Mechanism, working at the regional and international levels.

62. Indigenous experts and indigenous UNITAR alumni teach as part of training programmes presenting case studies on land and resource negotiations, empowerment and participation in political and peace processes and on effective engagement with United Nations bodies. The contribution of women is highlighted.

United Nations Population Fund

63. UNFPA works in more than 150 countries and territories that are home to most of the world's indigenous population, as well as at the regional and global levels. UNFPA works on the rights of indigenous peoples within the context of its mandate, guided by the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

64. In its country-level work, UNFPA emphasizes the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous women and girls. It prioritizes the recognition of indigenous rights in national constitutions and laws; the right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making and policy processes; their right to be counted and have their problems adequately visualized in censuses, surveys and administrative data systems; their right to sexual and reproductive health free from coercion, discrimination and violence; and their ability to fully exercise their reproductive rights.

World Intellectual Property Organization

65. Awareness of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is raised within the negotiations of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. References to the Declaration are included in the documentation of the Committee, particularly in the most recent versions of the draft negotiating texts on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. Participants in the meetings of the Committee and indigenous panels organized on the margins of the Committee regularly advocate the Declaration as a key reference. References are made to it in WIPO publications relating to the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions whenever relevant. Examples include *Promote and Protect Your Culture: A Practical Guide to Intellectual Property for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities* and *Documenting Traditional Knowledge: a Toolkit*.

66. Several articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are relevant to the WIPO programme of work on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. In furtherance of article 31, WIPO provides training activities and information resources that are aimed at enabling indigenous peoples to make more effective use of intellectual property principles and tools in order to prevent the misappropriation of their traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions by third parties and to protect them for the indigenous peoples' own benefit, if they so wish. On the norm-setting side, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore will continue to expedite its work during the biennium 2020–2021, with the objective of finalizing an agreement on an international legal instrument or instruments relating to intellectual property, which will ensure the balanced and effective protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. Current discussions include the possibility for indigenous peoples to require free, prior and informed consent for access to and use of their traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions by third parties. In line with articles 18 and 41 of the Declaration, robust measures are taken in order to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the Committee.

67. WIPO training activities and information resources addressing indigenous peoples' needs for protection contribute towards the fulfilment of those commitments, as well as Sustainable Development Goals 2, 3, 4, 9, 14 and 15. The majority of the WIPO training materials that address the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions are done in furtherance of article 31 of the Declaration. They are all available on the WIPO website. Program 4 of the WIPO Program and Budget for the bienniums 2018/19 and 2020/21 provides information regarding the resources allocated by WIPO for its work in relation to traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources during the current and next bienniums.

68. Relevant activities of WIPO include workshops, distance learning courses and training, involving representatives of member States, civil society and indigenous peoples separately or jointly, as well as the dissemination of publications. In 2019, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities were invited to

participate in several multi-stakeholder practical workshops, with particular emphasis in 2019 and 2020 on capacity-building in support of entrepreneurship among women from indigenous peoples and local communities. Two indigenous persons were granted a scholarship to participate in a 2019 WIPO Summer School on Intellectual Property. The WIPO Indigenous Fellowship Program continued in 2019.

69. The WIPO secretariat, with the support of WIPO member States, has taken robust measures to ensure and enhance the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, as observers. At its fortieth session, the Committee decided to request the secretariat to organize, during the biennium 2020/21, an indigenous expert workshop and to update a technical review that had been issued in 2016.

World Health Organization and Pan American Health Organization

70. WHO and PAHO conducted several activities to implement the system-wide action plan to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

71. The approval of the first Policy on Ethnicity and Health by PAHO member States during the twenty-ninth Pan American Sanitary Conference was a critical contribution to the achievement of the ends of the Declaration. The Policy constitutes a framework for member States when addressing the health of indigenous peoples. It incorporates five lines of action: (a) production of evidence; (b) promotion of policy action; (c) social participation and strategic partnerships; (d) recognition of ancestral knowledge and traditional and complementary medicine; and (e) capacity development at all levels. The Declaration is referred to and highlighted in the Policy on Ethnicity and Health. It is also available on the cultural diversity and health website and promoted through regional WHO and PAHO social media accounts on relevant advocacy days recognized by WHO and PAHO.

72. In 2019, the Strategy and Plan of Action on Ethnicity and Health 2019–2025, aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, was approved by PAHO member States. This is another critical contribution for achieving the ends of the Declaration in the Latin American region. The development of the Strategy included a process of consultation with indigenous peoples and other groups at the country, subregional and regional levels.

73. Important work is being conducted by WHO and PAHO at the country level on a variety of health topics relating to the health of indigenous peoples, ensuring their participation. These topics include maternal health, communicable diseases (tuberculosis, HIV, neglected diseases), non-communicable diseases and disaster risk reduction. PAHO has provided technical cooperation through the review of laws and plans addressing the health of indigenous peoples, with their participation. In the field of maternal health, for example, knowledge dialogues between indigenous peoples and health personnel have been conducted in several countries of the region to address maternal health priorities.

74. In 2019, a network integrating indigenous knowledge and disaster risk reduction management was launched. The network is composed of indigenous leaders and disaster risk management.

75. The Strategy and Plan of Action on Ethnicity and Health 2019–2025 builds upon the global commitment to sustainable development made in the 2030 Agenda: to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest behind first. It is particularly relevant to highlight the regional commitments reflected in the PAHO Strategy for Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage, and the Plan of Action on Health in

All Policies. These instruments are in line with Sustainable Development Goal 3, on ensuring healthy lives for all at all ages, and make universal health coverage a central issue and an essential dimension in achieving that Goal, on the basis of the principles of equity, equality and non-discrimination.

76. WHO and PAHO offer virtual and in-person courses on cultural diversity and health. They have been prioritizing technical cooperation to build the capacity of health systems to address ethnicity in harmony with Sustainable Development Goals and international and regional human rights instruments.

77. The Virtual Health Library on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine for the Americas, launched in 2018, is aimed at bringing together those responsible for public policies, academia, professional associations, health service providers and indigenous organizations, with the common goal of collaboratively developing a virtual space to increase comprehension of the panorama of traditional and complementary medicine in the Americas.

World Tourism Organization

78. UNWTO understands the relevance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; it was a foundation for the Larrakia Declaration on the Development of Indigenous Tourism, adopted by the World Indigenous Tourism Alliance in 2012, in which, among others, the principles that indigenous culture and the land and waters on which it is based would be protected and promoted through well-managed tourism practices and appropriate interpretation and that indigenous peoples would determine the extent and nature and organizational arrangements for their participation in tourism and that Governments and multilateral agencies would support the empowerment of indigenous people were adopted. UNWTO took the lead role in preparing the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America (A/74/208), which included information on the ongoing efforts of the States members of UNWTO in Central America to implement existing and new programmes designed to promote and enhance sustainable tourism and sustainable development in its three dimensions in Central American countries. As reported by the member States, tourism contributes to fighting poverty through job creation and entrepreneurship opportunities, benefits indigenous and disadvantaged communities, among others, and promotes the conservation of cultural and natural heritage and the inclusion of indigenous and local communities in planning, development and operation, as seen for example in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

79. At its twenty-third session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 9 to 13 September 2019, the UNWTO General Assembly fully endorsed the *Recommendations on Sustainable Development of Indigenous Tourism* as proposed by the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (the independent and impartial body of UNWTO responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism) and encouraged the Committee to stimulate their dissemination among all relevant tourism stakeholders.

80. Taking as a basis the Larrakia Declaration, the *Recommendations on Sustainable Development of Indigenous Tourism* contain a set of general and specific recommendations aimed at ensuring more equitable partnerships between the tourism sector and indigenous people in order to improve the well-being of communities and also enable the enhancement of individual livelihoods, while respecting their cultural values, governance models, customary laws and special relationship with their traditional lands, engaging in consultation processes so that any proposed tourism development is entered into with free and full consent.