



United Nations

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**Report on the eighteenth session
(22 April–3 May 2019)**

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Note

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

International expert group meeting on the theme “Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16”

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme “Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16”.

Draft decision II

Venue and dates for the nineteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council decides that the nineteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters from 13 to 24 April 2020.

Draft decision III

Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its eighteenth session and provisional agenda for its nineteenth session

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its eighteenth session;
- (b) Approves the provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Permanent Forum as set out below:
 1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 3. Discussion on the theme “Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16”.
 4. 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.

5. Dialogues:
 - (a) Dialogue with indigenous peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with Member States;
 - (c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
 - (d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - (e) Regional dialogues;
 - (f) Thematic dialogues.
6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
7. Provisional agenda for the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its nineteenth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assist in their realization, in line with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

3. It is the understanding of the Permanent Forum that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations will be implemented to the extent possible within the context of the approved programme of work of the relevant entities.

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Discussion on the theme “Traditional knowledge: generation, transmission and protection”

4. Indigenous knowledge systems contribute directly to sustaining biological and cultural diversity, poverty eradication, conflict resolution, food security and ecosystem health and serve as the foundation of indigenous peoples’ resilience to the impact of climate change.

5. The Declaration includes the right of indigenous peoples to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs (art. 11); the right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies (art. 12); the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects (art. 12); the right to repatriation of their human remains (art. 12); and the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their traditional knowledge (art. 31).

6. The Declaration also includes the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination. Through that right comes the right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

Self-determination is closely linked to the generation, transmission and protection of traditional knowledge, given that indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own conditions for safeguarding and developing their knowledge.

7. Although there is increasing awareness in international forums related to climate change, environmental degradation, food security and genetic resources, as well as science, technology and innovation, of the importance of traditional knowledge, indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge remains threatened by misappropriation, misuse and marginalization. Urgent action is needed to ensure that such knowledge systems do not disappear. Furthermore, indigenous knowledge should be recognized as an equal source of information in the inter-scientific dialogue to meet the challenges mentioned above.

8. The Permanent Forum welcomes the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights to promote and protect their knowledge, in the implementation of article 8 (j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, regarding traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. The Forum also welcomes steps already taken to include indigenous peoples in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to achieve the vision set out in the Convention of living in harmony with nature by 2050.

9. Regarding the negotiations taking place at the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Permanent Forum reiterates the urgent need to develop an instrument that responds to the current lack of adequate protection of traditional knowledge and recognizes indigenous peoples as equal stakeholders and the legitimate holders of their knowledge. The Forum calls upon the Intergovernmental Committee to fast-track the negotiations and to use its core budget to fund indigenous peoples' participation in the deliberations.

10. The Permanent Forum recommends that WIPO commission the updating of the technical review of key intellectual property-related issues of the WIPO draft instruments on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, which was undertaken in 2016 by James Anaya (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/INF/10), to reflect current issues, with an emphasis on concepts such as "balancing" and "public domain" and how these might conflict with indigenous peoples' human rights and customary laws, and the obligation to incorporate and respect human rights in the work of WIPO.

11. The Permanent Forum also recommends that WIPO organize a second indigenous expert workshop on intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions before 2021.

12. In the light of the emerging international legal framework for local communities, the Permanent Forum recommends that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) prepare, in consultation with other relevant United Nations entities, including the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and before 2022, a comparative legal study that analyses the rights of indigenous peoples and the emerging rights of local communities.

13. The Permanent Forum recognizes the arrangements made by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity for the participation of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the initiative of the Conference of the Parties to launch an international alliance for nature and culture as an inclusive multilevel platform for parties to the Convention. The Forum underlines the need to effectively include indigenous peoples in the negotiations of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to reflect the fundamental relationship between indigenous peoples and biodiversity.

14. The Permanent Forum urges Member States to include indigenous peoples' rights in the outcomes of the 2019 Climate Summit called for by the Secretary-General, which will be held on 23 September 2019. The Forum also recommends that States, the United Nations system, indigenous peoples' organizations and other partners secure funding to ensure the adequate participation of indigenous peoples at the Summit and at the preparatory meetings.

Discussion on the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages

15. Indigenous languages represent complex systems of knowledge that have been developed over thousands of years and are inextricably linked to lands, waters, territories and resources. Each indigenous language represents a unique framework for understanding the world in all its complexity and is a repository of traditional knowledge that is vital for sustaining the Earth's biological diversity, finding effective responses to the challenges presented by climate change and providing important contributions to sustainable development, peacebuilding and reconciliation processes.

16. Indigenous languages are key to ensuring the continuation and transmission of culture, customs and history as part of the heritage and identity of indigenous peoples. The Declaration reflects the importance of indigenous languages and provides for indigenous peoples to have the rights to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their languages (art. 13), to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages (art. 14) and to establish their own media in their own languages (art. 16). In the Declaration, States are requested to take effective measures to ensure that these rights are protected (art. 13).

17. The Permanent Forum expresses concern for the state of the world's indigenous languages. It is estimated that there are between 6,000 and 7,000 oral languages in the world today, most of them spoken by very few individuals. The Forum recommends the adoption of a rights-based approach towards indigenous language issues that considers the full spectrum of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Declaration. The Forum also recommends that Member States, the United Nations system, indigenous peoples' organizations and other stakeholders share initiatives and strategies undertaken for, with and by indigenous peoples in order to recover, use and revitalize indigenous languages, including through the use of information and communication technologies.

18. The Permanent Forum thanks the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for its efforts as the lead United Nations agency for the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages.¹ The Forum recommends that UNESCO prepare a strategic outcome document of the 2019 International Year. The Forum invites Member States to consider discussing the outcome document at the General Assembly.

19. The Permanent Forum requests that UNESCO present a report to the Forum by 2020 on the implementation of the International Year of Indigenous Languages, on the basis of the action plan for organizing it (see [E/C.19/2018/8](#)).

20. The Permanent Forum welcomes the global launch of the International Year of Indigenous Languages on 28 January 2019 in Paris, led by UNESCO in cooperation

¹ The steering committee for the organization of the International Year is composed of States; representatives of indigenous peoples and institutions from the seven sociocultural regions; designated members of the three United Nations mechanisms (one member of the Permanent Forum, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and one member of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples); and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (advisory role). UNESCO serves as the secretariat of the committee.

with the steering committee. It also welcomes the organization of the high-level informal-plenary meeting of the General Assembly thereafter on preparations for the International Year, convened in response to resolution 73/156 by the President of the seventy-third session of the Assembly at Headquarters on 1 February 2019.

21. The Permanent Forum takes note of national, regional and international initiatives, including the establishment of an entity with the name “Ibero-American Institute of Indigenous Languages”, requested at the twenty-sixth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, to be implemented by the Ibero-American General Secretariat, the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture and the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.² The Forum recommends that similar initiatives be implemented in other regions.

22. Considering the rapid rate of disappearance of indigenous languages and the fact that their reclamation and revitalization will require a sustained effort by indigenous peoples, Member States and the United Nations system, the Forum recommends that the General Assembly proclaim an “International Decade on Indigenous Languages”, to begin in 2021 or as soon as possible.

23. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States formulate evidence-based policies, long-term strategies and regulatory frameworks, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, to ensure their support and the protection and revitalization of indigenous languages, including adequate, sustained support for bilingual, mother-tongue education. The Forum also recommends that States facilitate the mainstreaming of indigenous languages. Allowing indigenous peoples to gain access to health care and other public services in their own languages will help to ensure their overall well-being.

24. The Permanent Forum urges UNESCO to develop an indigenous peoples’ platform within the agency to ensure that UNESCO language programmes provide tangible benefits to indigenous communities and ensure that indigenous peoples are active in all aspects of the work of UNESCO.

Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

25. The Permanent Forum encourages Member States to review recommendations made at past sessions, renew efforts at their implementation and report on progress made by 2021. It invites the United Nations system to support the States’ efforts in this regard.

26. Expert members of the Permanent Forum take a proactive role in monitoring the implementation of the Forum’s recommendations. In this regard, the Forum’s database of recommendations is a useful working tool to measure progress. It is updated annually on the basis of information received from the recommendations’ addressees. The Forum welcomes Yanapaq.info, developed by the Centro de Culturas Indígenas del Perú, as an additional tool to track progress in implementing the Forum’s recommendations and to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Declaration. The Forum encourages States, United Nations entities, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders to make a use of these tools.

Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

² See www.segib.org/wp-content/uploads/CE-12-LENGUAS-IND--GENAS.pdf.

27. The mandate of the Permanent Forum is to advise the Economic and Social Council on indigenous peoples' issues related to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights. In addition, the Forum is tasked with promoting respect for and the full application of the provisions of the Declaration and following up on their effective implementation.

Economic and social development

28. Building on the recommendation contained in paragraph 16 of its report on its sixteenth session (E/2017/43-E/C.19/2017/11), the Permanent Forum strongly encourages United Nations resident coordinators and country teams to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, including indigenous women and young people, in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and country programme action plans.

29. The Permanent Forum urges Member States to provide financial support to the trust fund on indigenous issues (fund 32FII) to support the work of the Forum in implementing its mandate and to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples to facilitate the participation of indigenous peoples in key United Nations meetings and processes. The Forum recommends that States, private foundations, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs support the work of indigenous-led funding initiatives.

30. In accordance with articles 20 and 21 of the Declaration, the Permanent Forum urges States to develop legislation, policies and programmes supporting traditional livelihoods with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples. In particular, the Forum urges the Government of Finland to renew the Reindeer Herding Act with the full and effective participation of the Sami people.

31. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the project of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), entitled "Linking indigenous peoples with regional development", which involves indigenous leaders and communities in Australia, Canada and Sweden, and encourages OECD and its member States to expand the project.

Culture

32. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the organization of the World Indigenous Games, held in Brazil in 2015 and in Canada in 2017, which illustrated and highlighted, among others, articles 31 and 43 of the Declaration. The Forum welcomes the agreement by indigenous peoples from various regions to hold the third World Indigenous Games, in 2020. It encourages Member States and United Nations entities to support the preparations for the organization of the third World Indigenous Games and other indigenous-led sport initiatives at all levels.

33. The Permanent Forum recalls the recommendation contained in paragraph 39 of its report on its sixteenth session, in which States were encouraged to continue to cooperate with indigenous peoples to develop fair, transparent and effective mechanisms for the repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains at the national and international levels.

34. The traditional food systems of indigenous peoples depend on a healthy environment and access to traditional resources and play an important role in maintaining the communities' cultures and identities and their health and well-being. The Permanent Forum encourages indigenous peoples, States, United Nations entities and civil society organizations to raise awareness and promote the food cultures of indigenous peoples through support for indigenous peoples' food systems and unconditional access to traditional resources.

Education

35. The Permanent Forum remains concerned about the state of formal education for indigenous young people and calls upon States to fully fund bilingual and culturally appropriate primary, secondary and tertiary education programmes led by indigenous peoples, including mobile education initiatives for nomadic and semi-nomadic communities. Supporting informal and formal indigenous education systems is crucial in order to maintain and transmit traditional indigenous knowledge systems.

Environment

36. Recognizing the urgent need for concerted action to address conservation and the rights of indigenous peoples, the Permanent Forum held its second dialogue on the topic during its eighteenth session. Research increasingly and consistently demonstrates that recognizing indigenous peoples' rights to their territories and resources is the most effective way to safeguard biological diversity and protect the ecological integrity of critical ecosystems. Ecological knowledge systems and resource management strategies of indigenous peoples play a key role in implementing truly sustainable conservation strategies and policies.

37. This dialogue follows on the international expert group meeting on the theme "Conservation and the rights of indigenous peoples" (E/C.19/2019/7). The Permanent Forum endorses the recommendations from the meeting and urges States, conservation organizations, indigenous peoples and United Nations entities to work together in implementing the recommendations.

38. The Permanent Forum expresses concern about continuing violations of indigenous peoples' rights in relation to conservation initiatives and will continue to advance efforts to develop concrete action to ensure that conservation strategies and programmes are in line with the Declaration.

39. The Permanent Forum recommends that the specialist group on indigenous peoples, customary and environmental law and human rights within the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy of the International Union for Conservation of Nature host a series of regional meetings to discuss the development of standards for the conservation of indigenous peoples' lands and waters by 2020, together with indigenous peoples, NGOs and other stakeholders, in consultation with the Forum, United Nations special rapporteurs and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

40. The Permanent Forum urges the member organizations of the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights to commission independent evaluations of the impact of their organizations' work on indigenous peoples.

41. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination conduct a study on the use of private military and security companies in conservation and their impact on the rights of indigenous peoples.

42. The Permanent Forum recommends that States implement emission reductions to limit the increase in average global temperature to no more than 1.5°C to avoid the increased impact of climate change.

Health

43. The Permanent Forum welcomes the participation of indigenous midwives at its eighteenth session and recognizes the important role that they play in maternal and child health. Indigenous women have both higher morbidity and mortality rates as a result of lack of access to health care, discrimination and marginalization. The practices and knowledge of indigenous midwives are crucial to the health of indigenous peoples. Unfortunately, their criminalization persists, with a devastating impact not only on the midwives themselves, but also on mothers, children and communities.

44. The Permanent Forum repeats its call for an end to the criminalization of indigenous midwives as expressed in the recommendations contained in paragraphs 49 and 50 of its report on its seventeenth session (E/2018/43-E/C.19/2018/11) and urges States to respect the right of indigenous peoples to maintain their traditional health practices in accordance with article 24 of the Declaration.

45. In the context of the implementation of the Policy on Ethnicity and Health, adopted by the executive committee of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in 2017 (CE160.R11), the Permanent Forum invites PAHO and the World Health Organization (WHO) to collaborate with health institutions and policymakers to address issues related to indigenous maternal health, including the practice of indigenous midwifery. It recommends that PAHO prepare a study on the advancements in indigenous maternal health, including best practices used by indigenous midwives and supportive organizations. The Forum invites PAHO to submit the report by 2020.

46. The Permanent Forum welcomes the study on tuberculosis and indigenous peoples (E/C.19/2019/9) by expert member Dr. Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine and urges Member States to implement the recommendations contained in the study, with the support of United Nations entities and in cooperation with indigenous peoples.

47. The Permanent Forum recommends that WHO, in coordination with PAHO, engage indigenous health experts in efforts to eradicate tuberculosis, including through intercultural approaches, and to report to the Forum at its nineteenth session.

48. The Permanent Forum calls upon the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues to organize, by 2021, in-country dialogues that will feed into a global expert group meeting on indigenous peoples and HIV/AIDS, with the aim of proposing key principles of action for HIV/AIDS programming, and urges States, in collaboration with indigenous peoples, to contribute to this initiative.

49. The Permanent Forum reiterates the recommendation contained in paragraph 47 of its report on its seventeenth session and calls upon Member States to begin work on a global, legally binding regime for toxic industrial chemicals and hazardous pesticides under the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.

Human rights

50. The Permanent Forum is deeply disturbed by apparent widespread policies and practices in previous years of the forced sterilization of indigenous women. This violation of women's rights is exacerbated by the likely intention to restrict or reduce the population of indigenous peoples.

51. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction take the lead, in collaboration with OHCHR, UNFPA and WHO, in conducting an initial study on the global scope of past forced sterilization programmes of indigenous peoples and

determine whether such programmes continue to exist, and report to the Forum at its nineteenth session on the progress made.

52. The Permanent Forum recalls its previous recommendations on the progress of the implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord and calls upon the Government of Bangladesh to take appropriate steps in this regard on an urgent basis. In particular, the Forum urges the Government to frame rules for the Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Disputes Resolution Commission and to generate ethnically disaggregated data, including for the national census of 2021.

Indigenous women and gender

53. The Permanent Forum reiterates its invitation to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to adopt a general recommendation on indigenous women by 2020, in accordance with the Declaration and other international instruments. The Forum recommends that the general recommendation on indigenous women consider issues related to the individual and collective rights to equality, non-discrimination and self-determination; social and economic rights, including the rights to decent work and to land, territory and resources; the right to water and food; cultural rights; civil and political rights; and the right to live free of any form of violence.

54. The Permanent Forum reiterates the recommendation contained in paragraph 40 of its report on its seventeenth session, in which it recommended that the Commission on the Status of Women organize a high-level interactive dialogue on the rights of indigenous women, to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, in 2020, to review progress made towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on links to the Declaration. The Forum invites States, in cooperation with indigenous peoples' organizations and with the support of the United Nations system, to conduct preparatory processes, with the full and effective participation of indigenous women of all ages.

55. The Permanent Forum notes with appreciation the work of the trilateral working group on violence against indigenous women and girls and urges Canada, Mexico and the United States of America, in cooperation with United Nations entities, to organize an international expert group meeting, by 2021, on ongoing issues of violence against indigenous women and girls in the region, including trafficking, as well as the continuing crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women.

56. The Permanent Forum notes the second World Conference of Indigenous Women, which will be organized in 2020 by the International Indigenous Women's Forum, in cooperation with regional indigenous women's networks and hosted by the Sámi Nisson Forum. The global agenda for promoting the rights of indigenous women in the context of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the International Conference on Population and Development will be discussed at the World Conference. The Forum encourages Member States and United Nations entities to support the organization of the World Conference of Indigenous Women and the participation of indigenous women from all seven sociocultural regions.

Children and youth

57. The Permanent Forum welcomes the launch of the publication *Global Indigenous Youth: Through their Eyes* by the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University. The Forum recommends that international organizations, indigenous youth organizations,

academia and other stakeholders undertake similar initiatives to raise awareness on the challenges facing indigenous young people.

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

58. The 2030 Agenda is now in its fourth year of implementation, yet few countries refer to indigenous peoples in their voluntary national reviews. The Permanent Forum therefore urges countries undertaking voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum on sustainable development to include indigenous peoples under all Sustainable Development Goals.

59. The Permanent Forum expresses concern that indigenous peoples are not receiving adequate information regarding the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level and encourages Governments, United Nations entities, indigenous peoples and civil society organizations to convene workshops and other forums to ensure their effective participation in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

60. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly ensure the meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and the Forum at the meetings of the 2019 high-level political forum on sustainable development, to be convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly in July and September 2019, respectively. The Forum stresses that the contributions of indigenous peoples to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda should be adequately reflected in the outcome document of the high-level political forums convened under the auspices of the Council and of the Assembly.

61. The Permanent Forum reiterates the importance of data collection and disaggregation for tracking progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda to ensure that indigenous peoples, who often trail the general population on development indicators, are not left behind.

62. The Permanent Forum welcomes the study entitled “Free, prior and informed consent: a human rights-based approach” (A/HRC/39/62), prepared by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It encourages Member States, United Nations entities, including the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Bank, regional development banks, the private sector, civil society organizations and other stakeholders, to use the study as guidance for understanding the principle of free, prior and informed consent when working on issues of concern to indigenous peoples. The Forum also encourages indigenous peoples to use the study to guide the development of their own community protocols on free, prior and informed consent for engaging with these stakeholders.

63. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the establishment by the World Bank of an inclusive forum for indigenous peoples to strengthen the Bank’s engagement with indigenous peoples, which should assist the Bank in implementing a human rights-based approach to development. The Forum also calls upon the Bank, in collaboration with indigenous peoples, to develop detailed guidance on the proper implementation, review and monitoring of processes on free, prior and informed consent and to ensure that its projects protect and enhance customary land tenure systems in the implementation of Environmental and Social Standard 7 and the Environmental and Social Framework approved by the World Bank in 2016.

Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

64. The Permanent Forum reiterates its grave concerns about the situation of indigenous human rights defenders who continue to be harassed, criminalized,

prosecuted or even killed for exercising their legitimate rights to protect their lands, territories and resources, especially in the context and activities of extractive industries. The Forum calls upon Member States to take a zero-tolerance approach to violence against indigenous human rights defenders, to develop and implement all measures necessary to respect and protect indigenous human rights defenders, to duly investigate any act against them and to prosecute those responsible to the full extent of the law.

65. As a result of the loss of their lands, territories and resources due to development and other pressures, many indigenous peoples are forced to leave their traditional lands and territories and migrate within and between countries to escape conflict, persecution and the impact of climate change. Indigenous peoples' mobility has become an increasingly complex issue in recent years. The Permanent Forum therefore invites Member States to fully implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration adopted in December 2018, in line with the Declaration.

66. In this regard, the Forum invites the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to pay special attention to the situation of indigenous peoples and address these issues in accordance with their mandates. The Forum recommends that IOM and UNHCR develop specific guidelines on indigenous migrants and to actively participate in the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues.

67. The Permanent Forum urges Member States to consider the expansion of the mandate of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples to support grantees who have effective initiatives to implement recommendations of United Nations human rights mechanisms; the participation of indigenous peoples in the Forum on Business and Human Rights; and the participation of indigenous peoples in the pre-sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council.

68. The Permanent Forum encourages Member States, in particular those in Africa and Asia, to invite the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples to undertake country studies and promote best practices in realizing the rights of indigenous peoples.

69. The Permanent Forum welcomes the efforts of Member States, United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations to implement the Declaration, as reaffirmed in the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, as well as the recommendations of the Forum, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous People in various regions, and urges them to take specific measures in this regard.

70. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the Ibero-American Action Plan for the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of 2018 and the establishment of an indigenous peoples' regional observatory, led by the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, as a tool to measure the progress made in implementing the Declaration. In addition, the Forum encourages Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Fund, considering its fundamental role in the region in processes of dialogue and consultation between States and indigenous peoples.

71. The Permanent Forum urges indigenous peoples to report on threats, human rights abuses and reprisals for participating in United Nations meetings to OHCHR at reprisals@ohchr.org.

Dialogues with indigenous peoples, Member States and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system

72. The Permanent Forum conducted three focused, interactive dialogues with indigenous peoples, Member States and United Nations entities. Such dialogues provide an opportunity to focus on specific issues, share good practices, mobilize concrete action to implement the Declaration and identify ways to increase the effectiveness of the work of the Forum.

73. The year 2021 will mark the twentieth anniversary of the Permanent Forum. The Forum creates a space to advance cooperation among indigenous peoples, Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders by organizing regional and thematic dialogues and making comprehensive recommendations in all areas of its mandate. Since its establishment, the Forum has directed numerous recommendations to States, United Nations agencies, indigenous peoples and civil society stakeholders. While members of the Forum have also been actively engaged in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples at the global, regional, country and community levels, progress in realizing the rights of indigenous peoples is slow.

74. Additional avenues for advancing and strengthening the rights of indigenous peoples at intergovernmental platforms, such as the universal periodic review, the Summit of the Group of Seven Industrialized Countries and the Group of 20 Summit on financial markets and the world economy, should be explored.

Dialogue with indigenous peoples

75. The Permanent Forum appreciates the frank and open dialogue with indigenous peoples. It takes notes of the concerns raised, regarding, among others, the exploitation of indigenous peoples' lands, territories and resources, allegations of human rights violations, violence against indigenous women and girls, and the implementation of large-scale development projects without their free, prior and informed consent. In addition, the lack of constitutional recognition and specific laws and policies related to indigenous peoples is a serious challenge in achieving the ends of the Declaration.

76. The Permanent Forum recognizes the initiatives, efforts and achievements of indigenous peoples in securing their rights. The Forum is encouraged by these and will continue its efforts to promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the Declaration and follow up on its effectiveness.

Dialogue with Member States

77. According to article 42 of the Declaration, Member States shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the Declaration and follow up its effectiveness.

78. The dialogue with Member States focused on the implementation of the Permanent Forum's recommendations, the ratification and implementation of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and on addressing disputes between indigenous peoples and Member States at the local level.

79. In terms of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), some States reported on their efforts to ratify and implement the Convention, highlighting areas that they considered to be problematic, including the concept of indigenous peoples in regional and national contexts; legal interpretation of the right to self-determination and self-identification; and land and resource rights and provincial and federal jurisdictions. Positive steps towards the implementation of the Convention

have led to regional consultations, the development of action plans specific to indigenous peoples and, in some countries, changes to national legislation and constitutions.

80. The Permanent Forum urges States that have been recommended by the universal periodic review to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), to do so.

81. The Permanent Forum invites Member States to fully implement recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples following her or his country visits.

82. With regard to the development of national action plans, as committed to by Member States at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum welcomes the adoption by the Government of El Salvador of a national action plan and encourages its full and effective implementation. The Forum strongly urges other States to follow this good practice and develop their own national action plans for the full implementation of the Declaration. The Forum also encourages States to review recommendations made at past sessions, renew efforts at their implementation and report on progress made by 2021. The Forum invites the United Nations system to support the efforts of Member States in this regard.

83. As consistently suggested during the dialogue with Member States, the Permanent Forum invites States to consider ways of addressing disputes between them and indigenous peoples. Suggestions included, among others, setting up independent conflict resolution mechanisms to resolve disputes between States and indigenous peoples (in accordance with article 27 of the Declaration and paragraph 21 of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples), implementing the Forum's recommendations for better addressing such disputes and increasing the involvement of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes.

Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system

84. The Permanent Forum welcomes progress made by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system in continuing to implement the system-wide action plan on the rights of indigenous peoples and recommends the continuation and expansion of this work by conducting an analysis, led by the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues, of the Forum's recommendations, with the aim of identifying best practices, gaps and challenges, and by exploring ways to implement outstanding recommendations by 2021.

85. Considering that some indigenous peoples are living in countries that do not have United Nations country offices and lack opportunities to cooperate and coordinate with the United Nations agencies in advancing their rights and well-being, the Permanent Forum invites the United Nations system to cooperate with indigenous peoples in those regions.

86. The Permanent Forum recommends United Nations entities that have not done so to incorporate indigenous peoples-driven platforms in order to give advice on and to promote indigenous peoples' issues, as well as consider the participation of the Permanent Forum together with indigenous peoples in such platforms.

87. The Permanent Forum invites the newly established Facilitative Working Group of the local communities and indigenous peoples platform to collaborate closely with bodies outside the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on matters relating to climate change and indigenous peoples, in accordance with its mandate (Conference of the Parties decision 2/CP.24, para. 20).

88. The Permanent Forum encourages UNFPA to organize, in full cooperation with indigenous peoples, a global symposium on indigenous young people and women during the summit to be held Nairobi in November 2019 to advance the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development so that their key concerns are incorporated into the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action.

89. The Permanent Forum expresses concern regarding indigenous young people in situations in which they are increasingly migrating from their communities because of poverty, lack of economic opportunities and climate change. With a focus on Sustainable Development Goal 8, the Forum encourages ILO and IOM, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, to conduct a study, by 2021, on good practices on, opportunities for and challenges in generating culturally appropriate, decent work for indigenous young people. The study should inform the development of programmes and initiatives for indigenous youth employment, both in their communities and in the context of migration.

90. The Permanent Forum welcomes the results of the 2018 High-level Expert Seminar on Indigenous Food Systems, in particular the creation of an online global hub on indigenous food systems, and would like to recommend that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continue work on:

(a) Indigenous young people towards the creation of a forum on indigenous young people in the coming years;

(b) Indigenous food systems, in particular in relation to the links with traditional knowledge, climate change and the respect of indigenous peoples' rights to their lands, territories and resources;

(c) Indigenous women (the global campaign on indigenous women and the leadership and food security schools for indigenous women).

91. The Permanent Forum also appreciates the work of FAO, in collaboration with the Forum, on including the issues of indigenous peoples in the Committee on World Food Security and recommends that FAO continue to collaborate with the Forum to open up spaces for dialogue and participation in other technical committees, such as those on forestry, fisheries and agriculture.

92. With a view to assessing the effectiveness of the implementation of policies on indigenous peoples, the Permanent Forum recommends to the United Nations entities that carry out free, prior and informed consent processes to develop a system for comprehensively documenting these processes.

Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

93. The Permanent Forum is seriously concerned about the lack of implementation of the Declaration, notwithstanding the commitments made in the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the establishment of the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the Declaration. Given that the 2014 outcome document was adopted five years ago, the Forum would highly welcome a review of progress made in its implementation. The review should provide a framework for a comprehensive and future-oriented evaluation of the state of the realization of the Declaration at all levels.

94. The Permanent Forum welcomes the work of the Government of Namibia in the development and validation of the white paper on the rights of indigenous peoples, developed with the support of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The Forum encourages the Government to take measures to ensure that the white paper is

approved and effectively implemented, in cooperation with indigenous peoples in Namibia. Furthermore, the Forum encourages other States, in particular African States, to consider similar measures, consistent with the Declaration.

95. The Permanent Forum welcomes the organization of the informal interactive hearing by the President of the General Assembly to reflect on possible further measures necessary to enhance the participation of the representatives and institutions of indigenous peoples in all meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them. The Forum urges Member States to convene, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, regional meetings in each of the seven sociocultural regions to discuss modalities in this regard.

96. The Forum urges the Secretary-General to appoint a special envoy, in consultation with indigenous peoples, to advance the implementation of the Declaration and invites States to support this initiative.

Regional dialogues between indigenous peoples and Member States

97. In an effort to increase the effectiveness of its work and to engage in deeper dialogue on issues of concern to indigenous peoples in the various regions, the Permanent Forum held seven regional dialogues among the Forum, indigenous peoples and Member States.

98. The dialogues provided an opportunity to discuss the main challenges and opportunities related to advancing the rights of indigenous peoples in the regions. There was agreement on the need to strengthen regional spaces for coordination and to link regional processes and the priorities of indigenous peoples with the ongoing global processes.

Africa

99. The Permanent Forum welcomes the growing interest in participation in the Forum's sessions among Africa's indigenous peoples' representatives, States, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities in Africa of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and academic institutions working in Africa. The Forum requests that the United Nations system and other donors scale up their support for the participation of indigenous peoples of Africa in the Forum's annual sessions.

100. To meet the major challenges facing indigenous peoples in Africa, the Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations system and other entities with expertise on indigenous peoples' issues in the African region support the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities in Africa to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

101. The Permanent Forum takes note of the progressive decisions made by the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in favour of the collective rights of indigenous peoples. The Forum is concerned about the lack of implementation and urges the Government of Kenya to fully implement its decisions on applications 006/2012 (African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights v. Republic of Kenya) and 276/03 (Centre for Minority Rights Development (Kenya) and Minority Rights Group (on behalf of Endorois Welfare Council) v. Kenya).

102. Recalling the recommendation contained in the report of its fifteenth session (E/2016/43-E/C.19/2016/11, para. 52), the Permanent Forum urges States to take measures for settlement, protection and security in post-conflict areas and for the construction of durable and lasting peace, promoting the full and effective inclusion of indigenous peoples, including indigenous women, in any initiative for peace and reconciliation. The Forum also recommends that the Department of Political and

Peacebuilding Affairs and indigenous peoples, including women and young people, consider indigenous peoples' traditional conflict resolution systems for achieving durable and lasting peace.

Arctic

103. The Permanent Forum takes notes of the issues reported by indigenous peoples from the Arctic region, including, among others, the lack of truly autonomous indigenous governing bodies, the development of large-scale projects without free, prior and informed consent, and other threats to their traditional livelihoods.

104. The Permanent Forum is concerned that, in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, Member States are not complying with the Declaration. In one case, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination requested that Norway temporarily suspend the ongoing construction of the Fosen Vind onshore wind power project, which negatively affects the reindeer herding of the South Sami people. The Government of Norway, having concluded that its administrative and legal processes were sufficient, did not implement the interim measures. The Forum urges Member States to respect and comply with decisions made by the United Nations treaty bodies.

105. The Permanent Forum is also concerned with the confiscation of the lands and territories of Arctic nomads, pastoralists and hunter-gatherers. One case reported to the Forum is the transfer of reindeer pastures to a hunting club without the free, prior and informed consent of the Sami people.

106. The Permanent Forum invites States to support the strengthening of local and regional indigenous peoples' institutions on the management of lands, water and resources, as recommended in the Pikialasorsuaq project of the Inuit Circumpolar Council and the Deatnu (Tana) salmon management project on cross-border cooperation.

Asia

107. The dialogue focused on traditional knowledge, land conflicts and the impact of large-scale development and economic projects on indigenous peoples.

108. The Permanent Forum acknowledges that the widespread use of dominant languages often results in prejudicial treatment and disadvantages for indigenous peoples speaking their languages, in particular in areas of education and access to services.

109. The Permanent Forum thanks countries in Asia that have already incorporated indigenous languages into primary education and urges Member States and the United Nations system to provide funding to implement policies related to indigenous languages and ensure the incorporation of indigenous languages into the curricula at all education levels.

110. The Permanent Forum recognizes that land conflict is a controversial issue and encourages Member States and indigenous peoples to continue dialogue to find common solutions.

111. The Permanent Forum expresses concern about large-scale industrial investment in indigenous peoples' territories. Measures should be taken by investors and multinational corporations to genuinely follow the principles of free, prior and informed consent for all projects that have an impact on indigenous peoples, taking into consideration their interests and development priorities.

112. The Permanent Forum expresses appreciation for the initiatives taken by the International Fund for Agricultural Development to bring together indigenous

peoples, government entities and other stakeholders to discuss development and economic projects in Asia applying the principles of free, prior and informed consent, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 17.

Central and South America and the Caribbean

113. Topics discussed in the dialogue included challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration, regional participation mechanisms, and cooperation and dialogue among States, indigenous peoples, United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations to promote the implementation of the Declaration.

114. The Permanent Forum welcomes the participation of indigenous peoples of the Caribbean region in this dialogue.

115. While it was recognized that States in the region have taken significant steps to advance the legal recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in the world, participants expressed that it was necessary to harmonize laws, policies and programmes at the national, regional and local levels to achieve the ends of the Declaration.

116. Indigenous peoples acknowledged the significant role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to advance the rights of indigenous peoples in the region.

117. Participants urged the effective implementation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted in 2016 by the Organization of American States, and the harmonization of the implementation of this Declaration with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

118. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the signing of the peace accord in Colombia and the efforts to implement it. The Forum takes note of Colombia's statement at the eighteenth session of the Forum on the need to protect the lives and integrity of indigenous human rights defenders. The Forum is, however, deeply concerned that killings of indigenous leaders have been increasing. The Forum urges the Government of Colombia to intensify its efforts to provide effective measures to prevent further attacks and to ensure peace and security for indigenous human right defenders and leaders.

North America

119. Among the issues discussed at the North America dialogue were the protection of indigenous peoples' sacred sites, lands and waters; maintaining cultural practices and sustainable indigenous economies; reconciliation and intergenerational trauma; violence against indigenous women and young people; and indigenous peoples' participation in the United Nations system.

120. The continued criminalization of indigenous peoples who are protecting sacred sites is a major concern in the region, as is the situation of indigenous young people in urban areas that are experiencing suicide and opioid crises, the large percentage of indigenous children who are in foster care and the disproportionate number of indigenous peoples, especially women, who are incarcerated.

121. The Permanent Forum appreciates that Canada, Mexico and the United States expressed their support for the enhanced participation of indigenous peoples in the United Nations system and urges them to work with other Member States in supporting a more robust consultation process, with the aim of creating a new status for indigenous peoples at the United Nations.

122. The Permanent Forum recommends that Canada operationalize the Declaration by passing Bill C-262 (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act) as a significant step towards reconciliation.

123. There were calls from indigenous peoples for regular dialogues between Member States and indigenous peoples' representative institutions.

124. In the discussion on reconciliation and intergenerational trauma, there was agreement that healing requires a return to culture and a relationship with the land. The Permanent Forum recommends that Governments support programmes led by indigenous peoples to address intergenerational trauma as a way of moving towards true reconciliation.

Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia

125. Climate change and environmental issues are a major threat to indigenous peoples. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States recognize indigenous peoples' rights to use, maintain and control their lands, territories and resources, and develop mechanisms for their inclusion in relevant decision-making processes. The Forum calls upon States to cooperate with indigenous peoples and consider their traditional knowledge in environmental impact assessment procedures and in local, regional and national development plans. The Forum also recommends that States implement inclusive environmental and land management policies, in line with the Declaration.

126. The Permanent Forum welcomes the measures taken by the Russian Federation in the context of 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages, including the establishment of a national organizing committee and action plan and the creation of the fund for the preservation and study of native languages of the Russian Federation. The Forum acknowledges the partnership and financial contribution of Estonia and the Russian Federation to the activities of the International Year and appeals to other States in this region to follow this good practice.

127. The Permanent Forum calls upon Member States to support cross-border cultural communications and initiatives between indigenous peoples of the region to foster their common languages, heritage and traditional knowledge.

128. The Permanent Forum also calls upon Member States to adopt effective measures to create a sustainable language environment by using information technologies and educational systems and by documenting and monitoring indigenous/native languages and using these languages in public spheres.

Pacific

129. The Pacific regional dialogue featured indigenous peoples and Member States from throughout Oceania sharing first-hand accounts of climate change as an existential threat to indigenous peoples who have done the least to contribute to the crisis. It was recognized during the dialogue that traditional knowledge and ancestral practices provided possibilities to co-manage natural resources, operationalizing the Declaration.

130. Indigenous peoples in the Pacific rely on marine resources and fisheries for both livelihoods and as a food source. The Permanent Forum encourages United Nations entities to incorporate traditional knowledge into all their work in the region.

131. The Permanent Forum expresses concern that indigenous peoples' participation is insufficient and traditional knowledge not respected in the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine

biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. The Forum invites the conference organizers to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples through the establishment of an indigenous peoples' advisory committee, in its third session, in August 2019, and fourth session, in the first half of 2020.

Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues

132. The Permanent Forum congratulates ILO on its 100th anniversary and welcomes the thirtieth anniversary of its Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

133. Given the anniversary of such an important milestone for Member States and indigenous peoples, the Permanent Forum encourages those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) to consider doing so.

134. The Permanent Forum welcomes the invitation extended by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Climate Change for indigenous peoples' representatives and members of the Forum to engage in activities to formulate concrete action related to the Climate Action Summit, which is to be held on 23 September 2019, and beyond.

135. The Permanent Forum expresses its thanks to the Governments of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, China, the Congo, Denmark, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, the Russian Federation, Spain and the United States, as well as the government of Greenland, for having hosted previous pre-sessional and intersessional meetings of the Forum. The Forum stresses the importance of organizing such pre-sessional and intersessional meetings and reiterates its recommendation that States that have not yet done so consider hosting such meetings in the future. It also requests that the secretariat of the Forum organize pre-sessional meetings for future sessions of the Forum.

136. It is stated in article 4 of the Declaration that "Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means of financing their autonomous functions". The Permanent Forum welcomes the international seminar to assess the global status and trends with regard to indigenous autonomies, held in Mexico City in March 2019, which was organized by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum and the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs. The Forum calls upon States and United Nations entities to continue to discuss these issues in each region. The Forum also encourages the convening of a global conference on the state of indigenous autonomies by the three United Nations mechanisms on the rights of indigenous peoples (i.e., the Forum, the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism) and invites Member States to host the event.

137. The Permanent Forum reaffirms the urgent need to continue to discuss the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination, autonomy and self-governance, together with their right to determine their own development priorities and to participate in governance and policy decision-making processes at the local, national, regional and international levels, building on the fundamental right to free, prior and informed consent and full participation in the development process. The role of the United Nations country teams in this regard is crucial.

138. The Permanent Forum welcomes the new practice of the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of organizing international expert group meetings outside Headquarters so that

indigenous peoples from various regions can fully participate and provide their expertise on the themes under discussion.

139. The Permanent Forum recognizes the role of indigenous elders in advancing the rights of indigenous peoples at all levels. The Forum invites indigenous elders from all regions to establish an advisory council of elders to assist the Forum and participating delegations, as requested.

140. The Permanent Forum appoints expert member Elifuraha Laltaika to conduct a study on the topic “Best practices in the protection of indigenous peoples’ lands, territories and resources: a case of hunter-gatherers in East Africa” and present that study to the Forum at its nineteenth session.

141. The Permanent Forum appoints expert member Jens Dahl to conduct a study on the topic “Indigenous peoples autonomies: experiences and perspectives” and present that study to the Forum at its nineteenth session.

142. The Permanent Forum appoints expert member Brian Keane to conduct a study on the development of standards and redress mechanisms for protecting indigenous peoples’ rights in conservation and present that study to the Forum at its nineteenth session.

Chapter II

Venue, dates and proceedings of the session

143. By its decision 2018/241, the Economic and Social Council decided that the eighteenth session of the Permanent Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 22 April to 3 May 2019.

144. At its 7th meeting, on 25 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 3, entitled “Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it three notes by the Secretariat entitled “Compilation of information received from United Nations system entities and other intergovernmental bodies on progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent 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” (E/C.19/2019/3), “Update on the activities of the members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch” (E/C.19/2019/4) and “International expert group meeting on the theme ‘Conservation and the rights of indigenous peoples’” (E/C.19/2019/7). At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

145. At its 7th and 15th meetings, on 25 April and 1 May, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 4, entitled “Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Update on the promotion and application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights on Indigenous Peoples” (E/C.19/2019/6). At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

146. At its 2nd meeting, on 22 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5, entitled “Discussion on the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

147. At its 10th meeting, on 26 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 6, entitled “Dialogue with indigenous peoples: collective rights to lands, territories and resources”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

148. At its 12th meeting, on 29 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 7, entitled “Dialogue with Member States”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

149. At its 11th meeting, on 29 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 8, entitled “Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

150. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 23 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 9, entitled “Discussion on the theme ‘Traditional knowledge: generation, transmission and protection’”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Traditional knowledge: generation, transmission and protection” (E/C.19/2019/5). At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sects. A and B).

151. At its 9th meeting, on 26 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 10, entitled “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Update on indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (E/C.19/2019/2). At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

152. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 24 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 11, entitled “Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

153. At its 9th and 15th meetings, on 26 April and 1 May, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 12, entitled “Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

154. At its 14th, 16th, 17th and 18th meetings, from 30 April to 2 May, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 13, entitled “Regional dialogues between indigenous peoples and Member States”. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

155. At its 4th meeting, on 23 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 14, entitled “Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Study on tuberculosis and indigenous peoples” (E/C.19/2019/9). At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

156. At its 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 15, entitled “Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session”. At the same meeting, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. A).

Chapter III

Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its eighteenth session

157. At the 20th meeting, on 3 May, the Rapporteur introduced the draft decisions and recommendations and the draft report of the Permanent Forum on its eighteenth session.

158. At the same meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted its draft report.

Chapter IV

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

159. The Permanent Forum held its eighteenth session at United Nations Headquarters from 22 April to 3 May 2019. It held 20 formal meetings, including 6 closed meetings and 3 parallel meetings, to consider the items on its agenda.

160. At the 1st meeting, on 22 April, the session was opened by the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. At the opening ceremony, a representative of the Onondaga Nation, Tadodaho Sid Hill, delivered a welcoming address. The President of the General Assembly and the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (Belarus) delivered statements.

161. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Chair of the Permanent Forum, the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

B. Attendance

162. Members of the Permanent Forum and representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and bodies, United Nations entities and non-governmental and indigenous organizations attended the session. The list of participants will be published at a later date.

C. Election of officers

163. At its 1st meeting, on 22 April, the Permanent Forum elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chair:

Anne Nuorgam

Vice-Chairs:

Phoolman Chaudhary
Lourdes Licenia Tibán Guala
Dmitrii Kharakka-Zaitsev
Elifuraha Laltaika

Rapporteur:

Brian Keane

D. Agenda

164. At its 1st meeting, on 22 April, the Permanent Forum adopted the provisional agenda contained in document [E/C.19/2019/1](#).

E. Documentation

165. The list of the documents before the Permanent Forum at its eighteenth session is contained in document [E/C.19/2019/INF/2](#).
