



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited  
25 April 2024

Original: English

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## Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Twenty-third session

New York, 15–26 April 2024

### Draft report

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### Chapter I

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

### B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

#### Recommendations of the Permanent Forum

#### Dialogues: dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes (item 5 (c))

1. The Permanent Forum heard from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on their activities to implement 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, as well as the recommendations issued by the Forum. The Forum appreciates the continued work to support the rights of Indigenous Peoples globally, including the outcome document of the meeting held in Rome in February 2024 of the Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the increased focus on including Indigenous youth and financing for Indigenous Peoples.

2. The Permanent Forum urges United Nations entities to strengthen and facilitate the engagement of Indigenous youth in decision-making processes across all United Nations processes. Initiatives should focus on mentorship, capacity-building, knowledge exchange and the creation of advisory roles specific to Indigenous youth and Indigenous youth caucuses that facilitate active participation and leadership.

3. The Permanent Forum welcomes the 2023 Indigenous youth Rome Declaration on Safeguarding Seven Generations in times of Food, Social, and Ecological Crisis that resulted from the second session of the Global Indigenous Youth Forum organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Forum encourages FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Forum to hold regional



consultations in all seven Indigenous regions before the third session of the Global Indigenous Youth Forum in 2025.

4. The Permanent Forum urges the States members of the World Intellectual Property Organization to ensure the full participation of Indigenous People, including developing safeguards to protect their knowledge and adopting a treaty to protect Indigenous Peoples' genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and medicine, at the Diplomatic Conference on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge to be held in 2024.

5. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank review and revise its Environmental and Social Framework to align it with current global environmental and social policies on Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, the Forum is concerned that when a dispute arises between the World Bank and a member State, Indigenous Peoples often experience adverse effects in accessing funding. The Forum calls on the World Bank to find a way to channel direct funding to the Indigenous Peoples in those countries.

6. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank strengthen platforms for dialogue with Indigenous Peoples at all levels so as to open enabling spaces that will foster strategic visibility and give a voice to Indigenous Peoples' priorities and concerns in a timely manner. The Forum further calls on the World Bank to enhance and expand direct financing mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples, specifically linking these to national programmes, policy dialogue, and investments for sustainability in all ecosystems.

7. The Permanent Forum invites the Development Coordination Office to include Forum members in its future meetings with resident coordinators for Indigenous Peoples' issues to be heard and to share experiences on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national level.

8. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations system establish a regional inter-agency working group on Indigenous Peoples' issues in Asia to enable a coherent regional approach, as has been done in Africa and Latin America.

9. The Permanent Forum welcomes the constructive response of United Nations entities to the Rome meeting outcome document on avoiding the conflation of Indigenous Peoples with other non-Indigenous groups, as well as the use of terms such as "local communities", "minorities", "vulnerable" and "marginalized", and their commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in their policies and programmes. The Forum calls on United Nations entities to raise awareness on the issue by using and sharing the Rome Declaration widely.

10. The Permanent Forum calls on the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund, the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Readiness Fund and the locally led Adaptation Fund, among others, to establish a mechanism for enhanced direct access for Indigenous Peoples by limiting intermediary organizations, with flexible access and transparent criteria that correspond to the needs of Indigenous Peoples.

11. The Permanent Forum welcomes the initiative of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues to create a working group on finance. The Forum encourages the working group to consult Forum members regularly and to build initiatives to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous Peoples to manage finance and access financial institutions.