The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will hold a Regional Dialogue for Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Transcaucasia to meet with representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Member States during the 22nd session of the Permanent Forum. UN agencies, funds and programmes and regional and national Human Rights Institutions and academia are also welcomed to attend.

The aim of the regional dialogues is to discuss issues of relevance in the countries of the region and identify how to sharpen the focus and impact of the Permanent Forum’s analysis and recommendations. The objectives of these dialogues include the following:

- Identify specific issues or challenges for Indigenous Peoples in the region, and share lessons learned from Indigenous Peoples, Member States, UN agencies and other stakeholders
- Provide a space for Indigenous Peoples, Member States and UN systems to exchange information and perspectives in an informal and constructive setting, to facilitate consensus building
- Identify strategic measures that can be taken to advance the rights of Indigenous Peoples at all levels, and highlight specific thematic areas and/or emerging issues that the Permanent Forum may wish to focus on at future sessions

Guiding Themes
In preparation for the Dialogue, participants are invited to consider the following guiding themes:
- Maintaining and strengthening distinct Indigenous institutions in support of Indigenous Peoples’ collective rights and identity determination.
- Advancing the implementation of UNDRIP in the context of criminalisation including the forced mobilisation, illegal detentions, and persecutions of Indigenous Peoples.
- The international armed conflict’s impact on Indigenous Peoples’ human, planetary and territorial health.
The dialogue will begin with introductory remarks from Valentina Vyacheslavovna Sovkina and will be moderated by Valentina Vyacheslavovna Sovkina and Suleiman Mamutov, Members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. After the opening remarks, participants will be invited to reflect on the guiding themes and discuss the major issues encountered by Indigenous Peoples within the regional and national contexts of Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Transcaucasia. Member of the Permanent Forum, Suleiman Mamutov will provide closing remarks.

Interventions from States and Indigenous Peoples should be brief and address a specific issue so that the discussions can be conducted in an interactive manner.

Tentative program:

1. Welcome remarks by Valentina Vyacheslavovna Sovkina, Member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
3. Concluding remarks by Suleiman Mamutov, Member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Recommendations database of the Permanent Forum: https://unpfii.desa.un.org/

Venue: Conference Room 4, UNHQ