



THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

24th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Agenda Item 5.f. Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities.

Conference Room 4 | Tuesday, 29 April 2025 | 10:00 – 13:00

Introduction

For the second consecutive year, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) will hold a dialogue on Indigenous Platforms within United Nations entities.

Since the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), there has been increasing recognition of the need for formal platforms within the UN system to uphold the rights recognized in UNDRIP and to enable Indigenous Peoples to contribute meaningfully to global governance. These platforms play a crucial role in enabling Indigenous Peoples to express their perspectives, participate in discussions, and contribute to the development of policies that affect their communities and livelihoods.

As more UN entities establish mechanisms to engage with Indigenous Peoples, it is essential that these platforms are designed and implemented in ways that respect Indigenous Peoples' rights, governance systems, and decision-making processes, rather than functioning merely as consultation spaces. These mechanisms should contribute to genuine participation, co-creation of policies, and effective advocacy for Indigenous Peoples within the multilateral system.

The UNPFII provides a key venue where Indigenous Peoples can strategize on how to engage with these platforms effectively—not only to voice concerns but also to develop pathways for meaningful collaboration and joint action. These platforms often bring together States and Indigenous Peoples, making it essential to ensure that their structures respect the distinct status of Indigenous Peoples as peoples with collective rights, rather than treating them as one among many stakeholders.

In accordance with its mandate and Article 42 of UNDRIP, the UNPFII calls on States, UN entities, and other actors to uphold this distinction, ensuring that Indigenous platforms operate in full respect of Indigenous Peoples' rights, governance systems, and decision-making processes.





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This session will examine:

- The effectiveness of existing Indigenous Peoples' platforms within the UN system.
- Challenges that need to be addressed.
- Concrete steps to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' participation, decision making and influence in global governance.

Format

The interactive dialogue will feature five invited UN entities, with each entity allotted 30 minutes. The format will ensure an inclusive and dynamic exchange, as the Chairperson will alternate speakers from UN entities, Member States, and Indigenous Peoples' organizations actively involved in these processes.

Indigenous Peoples' organizations are invited to present recommendations, while Member States may respond and outline commitments where possible. UN entities will also share concrete actions and next steps.

Structure of Each 30-Minute Segment

- 5-minute presentation by the UN entity representative.
- Comment/question from Permanent Forum Members.
- Open floor discussion, moderated by the Chairperson.
- Statements from Member States and Indigenous Peoples' organizations (alternating speakers - 3 minutes per speaker)
- Twenty minutes before the session concludes, the panelists will deliver brief concluding remarks, and the Chairperson will summarize the dialogue.

Invited UN Entities and Order of Presentation

- **CBD** (*Convention on Biological Diversity – New permanent subsidiary body on Article 8j and other Provisions*)
- **UNFCCC-IPLCP** (*Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*)
- **UNCCD** (*United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Secretariat*)
- **IFAD Indigenous Peoples' Forum** (*International Fund for Agricultural Development*)
- **WFP - Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems Coalition** (*World Food Programme*)





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References

- [A/HRC/54/31](#): Green financing – a just transition to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- [E/C.19/2024/6](#): Criminalization of Indigenous Peoples' human rights, report by Naw Ei Ei Min and Rodrigo Eduardo Paillalef Monnard.
- [A/78/162](#): Tourism and the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of, Indigenous Peoples, José Francisco Calí Tzay.
- [A/HRC/54/52](#) Study and Advice on the impact of militarization on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, EMRIP report.
- [A/HRC/54/63](#) Efforts to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: establishing effective monitoring mechanisms at the national and regional levels for the implementation of the Declaration, EMRIP report.

