

# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

## NOTE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

### *UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES*

#### TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

**17-28 April 2023**

The Permanent Forum is one of three United Nations mechanisms that are mandated to deal specifically with Indigenous Peoples' issues. The others are the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) is an advisory body to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), established in 2000, with the mandate to discuss Indigenous Peoples' issues related to economic and social development, culture, education, environment, health, and human rights. The Permanent Forum holds its annual two-week sessions; to date it has been in New York. The first meeting of the Permanent Forum was held in May 2002.

In 2023, the special theme of the UNPFII Session is “*Indigenous Peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach*”. The entire agenda of the Forum will take place at United Nations Headquarters, from April 17 to April 28. There will be also discussions on Indigenous women and CEDAW, Indigenous languages, the 2030 Agenda and its role in the enhancement of Indigenous Peoples' rights, as well as the UN Indigenous Mechanisms, and the future work of the Forum.

#### **Registration**

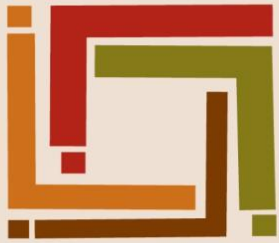
Member States, the UN and other intergovernmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) and academic accredited to the Permanent Forum and NGOs in consultative status to the ECOSOC can participate at the annual session of the Forum.

Pre-registered delegates approved by the Conference Focal Points of accredited Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) and academia, and NGOs in consultative status to the ECOSOC should have received a confirmation letter to the email addressed registered in [INDICO system](#). Participants are kindly requested to make sure that their profile and contact information on the [integrated Civil Society Organizations \(iCSO\) System](#) includes the latest correct information about their organizations.

Registration for UNPFII 2023 was open from 13 February till 4 April 2023. We are unable to accept any late registrations.

All information related to registration is available on the [website](#).

#### **Collection of UN grounds passes**



# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Please note that in-person registration is only open to those who have already registered, been approved, and received a confirmation letter via the INDICO system.

The registration desk will be open during the following times:

- Sunday 16 April from 12pm – 4 pm
- Monday 17 April from 8am to 12:30 pm
- 18 – 20 April from 9am to 12:30pm.

Representatives must bring their UNPFII 2023 Confirmation Letters as well as a valid passport issued by a Member State or an Observer State of the United Nations (or government-issued photo-ID if coming from within the U.S.) in order to collect their grounds pass.

Please keep your Temporary Ground Pass with you at all times during the event, as it will be the ONLY pass valid for Non-UN Ground Pass holders to enter the UN building and conference rooms.

**The United Nations does not charge fees for participation in sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.** The United Nations will not pay for any expenses in connection with the participation of Observers in the sessions of UNPFII 2023. Such arrangements and costs are the exclusive responsibility of participants.

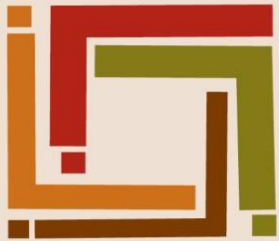
## **Accessibility**

For any questions related to the UNPFII 2023 registration of participants with disabilities, please contact the UN Accessibility Centre ([accessibilitycentre@un.org](mailto:accessibilitycentre@un.org)) and the Secretariat through the email address [cianciulli@un.org](mailto:cianciulli@un.org) of any accessibility requirements in order to facilitate participation. Adjustments may be made to seating arrangements to enable the participation of persons with disabilities.

## **Information about the Opening Ceremony of the 22<sup>nd</sup> session**

The opening of the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum will take place at the General Assembly Hall on 17 April 2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can access the GA Hall from 10 a.m. using the ceremonial stairs or the elevator. The meetings in the afternoon and for the remainder of the session will be in Conference Room 4.

The Opening of the session includes a Ceremonial welcome by the traditional Chief of the Onondaga Nation. The Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs will open the session. Additionally, it will include Statements by the Secretary-General of the United Nations; the President of the 77th session of the General Assembly; the President of ECOSOC; the President of Colombia; the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs; and the Chair of the



# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. A high-level representative of the government is invited, the United States Secretary of the Interior.

## Programme of Work

In the afternoon of 17 April, two agenda items 5 (g) and 5 (f) will be conducted separately as interactive dialogues. Under agenda 5 (g) a keynote speaker has been invited.

The special theme of the 22<sup>nd</sup> session is “Indigenous Peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach”. This theme will be discussed under agenda item 3 on Tuesday 18 April. It will begin with a panel moderated by a Member of the Forum, followed by the List of Speakers. In the afternoon the List of Speakers will continue on this topic

On Wednesday 18 April, under item 5 (d) Human Rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, there will be a panel where the Chair of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples is invited to speak. Indigenous Peoples are invited to participate in the interactive dialogue. This item agenda will continue in the afternoon with the list of speakers.

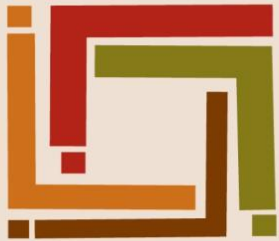
The discussion of the six mandated areas (item 4) with reference to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be held on 20 April (am) and Tuesday 25 (pm), both sessions will have a list of speakers.

In the second week, on Monday 24 (am) there will be a panel under item 6, Future work of the Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues. One of the panelists is the Chef de Cabinet of the Presidency of the 77<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly. After the panel, the Chair will continue with the list of speakers.

On Monday 24 (pm), there will a closed meeting between Indigenous Peoples and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. This session is expected to be an interactive dialogue. Staff members of the Secretariat of the Forum will collect the names of those organizations wishing to speak once the session begins. It will be the prerogative of the Chair to give you the floor.

The Regional Dialogues between Indigenous Peoples and Member States will take place on Wednesday 26 (pm) and Thursday 27. Note that on Thursday morning the regional dialogues will be simultaneous.

<b>Regional Dialogues schedule:</b>			
<b>Wednesday, 26 April</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Conference Room</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>



# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Central & South America and the Caribbean	3 pm - 4:15 pm	CR 4	English, French, Spanish
Africa	4:30 pm - 6 pm	CR 4	Arabic, English, French, Spanish
<b>Thursday, 27 April</b>			
	<b>Time</b>	<b>Conference Room</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Transcaucasia	10 am - 11:15 am	CR 4	English, Russian, Spanish
Asia	10 am - 11:15 am	CR6	No interpretation
Artic	11:30 am – 1 pm	CR4	English, Russian, Spanish
Pacific	11:30 am – 1 pm	CR6	No interpretation
North America	3 pm - 4:15 pm	CR4	English, Spanish

## List of Speakers / Interactive Dialogues

Please note that each agenda item the Programme of Work indicates that some will be conducted through a **Lists of Speakers** and others with **Interactive Dialogues**.

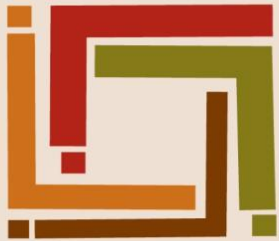
The **Lists of Speakers** are open to all those who are registered to attend the Permanent Forum as observers. The agenda items 3,4,5 (d) and 6 will have a pre-established list of speakers. The list of speakers will rotate among Member States, Representatives of Indigenous Peoples' Organizations accredited to the Permanent Forum and United Nations agencies. Speakers will only be able to speak once under an agenda item and the time limit is **3 minutes each**.

Indigenous Peoples' Organizations, National Human Rights Institutions and Indigenous Members of Parliament can inscribe to the List of Speakers with the DESA Secretariat staff a day before the scheduled agenda item - with one exception, [see calendar for registration](#).

The **Interactive Dialogues** are on agenda items 5(a), 5(b), 5(c), 5(d), 5(e), 5(f) and 5(g) and there will be no pre-established list of speakers. Observers at the beginning of each session ask for the floor by raising their hand and pressing the microphone button on their desk.

Given the limited time available and to allow the maximum number of participants to intervene, interventions should be limited to no more than **three minutes each**, or shorter if there is a large number of requests. The Chair may intersperse the interventions of participating States with interventions by international organizations, representatives of the UN system and representatives of Indigenous Peoples' organizations.

## Seating Arrangements



# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

The first two rows of seats in the meeting room will be assigned for Forum Members, while the seating arrangements for other participants will be spread equally among UN Member States and observers of the General Assembly.

During the opening meeting in the morning of 17 April, seating will also be available for Indigenous Peoples Organizations in the observer sections of the General Assembly Hall, and in Conference Room 4 on a first-come first-served basis. Please seat under the nameplate “Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations”.

## **Statements**

Participants who will deliver statements at the plenary meetings are requested to send a copy (in both PDF and Microsoft Word formats) to [estatemts@un.org](mailto:estatemts@un.org) no later than two hours in advance of the delivery of the statement. The name of the meeting and the speaker, as well as the agenda item, should be clearly indicated in the subject line of the email and in the heading of the statement.

## **Side Events**

These are organized by Indigenous Peoples Organizations accredited to the Permanent Forum, Member States, UN entities, intergovernmental organizations, and NGOs in consultative status with the ECOSOC. Due to the limited numbers of conference rooms available at the UN headquarters. Therefore, not all side events will take place on the premises and some side events will be at external venues. There are also virtual side events. Please refer to the list of side events published on our website. Registration for side events is now closed.

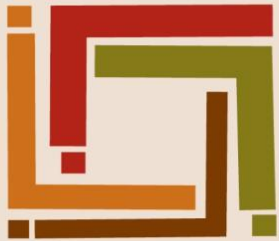
During the Forum session, there will be an informal hearing with Indigenous Peoples convened by the President of the 77th session of the General Assembly on enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples at the UN, on Thursday 20 in Conference room 1 from 3 – 6 p.m. Interpretation will be available in UN languages. Indigenous participants accredited to attend the 2023 session of the Permanent Forum are welcome to attend the hearing.

## **Other events**

The weekend before the Permanent Forum session, 15-16 April 2023 the Global Indigenous Peoples Caucus meeting will take place from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on the Second Floor of the Church Center of the United Nations at 777 United Nations Plaza (corner of East 44th Street and 1st Avenue), across the street from the main entrance to the United Nations.

**Cultural event and Reception** scheduled for Tuesday, 18 April 2023 from 6:30p.m. – 9.30p.m. at The Shed, 545 W 30th St (between 10th and 11th Avenues), New York, NY 1000. Participants: Accredited participants to the 22nd session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues ONLY (Indigenous Peoples, Member States and UN entities)





# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Given the limited capacity, the event will be open on a first-come-first-served basis (300 people capacity). Only those who have already registered and hold a ground pass for this year's session of the Permanent Forum will be able to attend the cultural event. Participants must show their pass upon arrival. Please note that the cultural event will be photographed, and participants consent to have their photos taken during the event. Please click here to RSVP. (<https://rsvp.zkipster.com/dppor>)

For more information, please refer to the UNPFII website.

## **Media and outreach**

Journalists without UN credentials who wish to attend the UNPFII session with professional equipment should submit an online application on the Web site of the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit: <http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/request.shtml>. Without media accreditation, Indigenous media will not be able to bring professional cameras and equipment into the United Nations.

For more information, please refer to the UNPFII website.

## **Webcast**

As in previous session, the UN Web TV will webcast the meetings of the Permanent Forum, with the exception of the closed meetings on Thursday, 20 April (pm); Monday, 24 April (pm), Tuesday, 25 April (am), Wednesday, 26 April, Thursday, 27 April and Friday, 28 April (am).

## **Indigenous Media Zone**

There will be an Indigenous Media Zone organized in coordination with Department of Global Communication and Cultural Survival. The "Indigenous Media Zone" aims at providing a space for indigenous and mainstream media channels and platforms to cover the 22nd Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Non-indigenous media are also welcome to join the Indigenous Media Zone.

The Indigenous Media Zone will be located in the UN Correspondents Association Room (3rd floor, Secretariat building, S-310) from Monday to Thursday, 17-20 April, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. To access the UNCA room, take the escalator from the 1B level.

To register in the IMZ and request a time slot for an interview, please sign up by 10th April: <https://bit.ly/40hLs1g>

## **Logistics at UN Headquarters**

The provisional agenda, programme of work and other relevant documents are available in all official UN languages at the Secretariat's web site: [www.un.org/indigenous](http://www.un.org/indigenous)