



# THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

## 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

### Regional Dialogue: Africa

Tuesday 24 April, 3pm–6pm CR 8

#### Relevant PFII Recommendations:

##### 9<sup>th</sup> Session:

- **Paragraph 031:** The Forum recommends that the United Nations system, the World Bank Group, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and other multilateral development banks formulate policies to ensure that indigenous education projects that are financed take into account the use, protection and intercultural preservation of indigenous languages through supporting bilingual, intercultural and multilingual education in indigenous languages.
- **Paragraph 111:** The Permanent Forum encourages further efforts to bolster indigenous participation in capacity-building efforts on access and benefit-sharing in the African region.

##### 10<sup>th</sup> Session:

- **Paragraph 030:** The Permanent Forum will explore possibilities for conducting, by appropriate UN entities, assessments, studies and reviews of the economic, social and cultural impacts of climate change on indigenous peoples. For example, UNCCD could conduct a study on climate change and desertification in the African region.

##### 11<sup>th</sup> Session:

- **Paragraph 018:** The Forum recommends that African States, United Nations agencies and academic institutions undertake studies on the impact of the doctrine of discovery on indigenous peoples of Africa, with a view to creating understanding and awareness.

##### 12<sup>th</sup> Session:

- **Paragraph 026:** The Forum encourages the UNDG to facilitate further dialogue between States and indigenous peoples at the African continental level to foster better understanding of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.





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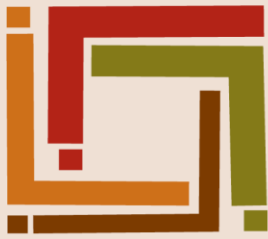
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- **Paragraph 029:** The Forum encourages African states to continue the practice of constitutional recognition and adoption of legislation on indigenous peoples.
- **Paragraph 030:** The Forum urges the concerned African States to implement the decisions and orders of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which are important because they contribute to the development of jurisprudence on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- **Paragraph 032:** The Forum calls upon the ECA and the AU, including NEPAD, to provide adequate capacity-building programmes and opportunities to enable African indigenous youth, women and persons with disabilities to engage meaningfully with States and other key development players.
- **Paragraph 033:** The Forum invites the addressee to convene a workshop on African pastoralism, indigenous peoples' rights and climate adaptation.
- **Paragraph 036:** The Forum calls upon UN-Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and other entities of the United Nations system to support capacity-building for indigenous women in Africa in order to empower them economically and socially. The Forum also encourages States to develop affirmative actions that are aimed at actively including indigenous women in decision-making at all levels.
- **Paragraph 038:** The Forum recommends that African States respect the UNDRIP and in particular the right to free, prior and informed consent, especially with reference to extractive industries and other large-scale development projects.
- **Paragraph 063:** The Forum recommends that the Bank fast-track, in coordination with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and other regional bodies, a regional policy framework for indigenous peoples and report on progress to the Forum at its thirteenth session, in 2014. The Forum further recommends that the Bank develop a mechanism specifically to support the entrepreneurship activities of indigenous peoples.

## 13<sup>th</sup> Session:

- **Paragraph 029:** Alarmed at attempts to exclude indigenous peoples of Africa in the application of World Bank Operational Policy 4.10, the Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank immediately initiate consultations with States and indigenous peoples in Africa as part of its safeguards policy review and ensure the application of safeguards to indigenous peoples of Africa, as directed by articles 19 and 41 of the Declaration.
- **Paragraph 030:** Calls upon the World Bank, African Member States, investor Governments and the private sector to disclose information about the "billion-dollar map" project and requests that commitments to international norms and standards in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples be recognized and respected. The Forum also recommends that the





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World Bank involve indigenous peoples' representatives in the mapping process and that indigenous peoples' free, prior and informed consent be respected, consistent with the Declaration.

## **16<sup>th</sup> Session:**

- **Paragraph 026:** The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, the African Union and the European Union establish special mechanisms for the protection of indigenous peoples in areas of conflict and high insecurity in the countries of the Sahel and Sahara region, in particular Tuaregs in Mali and Libya.

## **Possible discussion questions:**

- What are the key areas of concern for Africa?
  - How should Permanent Forum Members seek to address these concerns?
- What best practices exist in Africa related to the 6 mandated areas of the UNPFII (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights)?
- What policies are needed to advance the rights of indigenous peoples in Africa?

