

# United Nations Nations Unies

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Division for Social Policy and Development

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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14 April 2009

## **Information Note for Indigenous Peoples' Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations on the Eighth Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

The attached the Programme of Work (Attachment A) for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) eighth session will be held 18 – 29 May 2009 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The eighth session places special emphasis on the in-depth dialogue with six United Nations agencies as well as discussions on the Arctic and follow-up to the recommendations relating to Economic and Social Development; Indigenous Women; and Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and other ongoing themes.

The in-depth dialogue will facilitate a better understanding by the UNPFII, by governments and indigenous peoples, of the challenges and opportunities that each United Nations agency faces in discharging its mandate regarding indigenous peoples' issues. Such understanding will facilitate the strengthening of cooperation between each agency, governments and indigenous peoples.

The six United Nations agencies will be:

- Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Fund for Development (IFAD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Population Funds (UNFPA)
- Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

During the dialogue there will be an opportunity for the United Nations agencies to answer questions put to them by Indigenous Peoples' Organizations and NGOs (with ECOSOC status). It is therefore suggested that you might wish to prepare information and questions in advance for the Agencies so they can respond during the dialogue. This situation has been designed in a way that the proceedings and the apportioning of time can be conducted in a fair manner.

If you have questions that you would like to direct to the abovementioned United Nations agencies, you can send them to the Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues by **21 April 2009**, who will compile the questions and pass them on to each agency. Naturally, you can also ask questions during the dialogue with the United Nations agencies but time restrictions may be a factor, especially if the information is required from the Headquarters of the various agencies .

You may also wish to read a note on working methods for the dialogue, which is attached (Attachment B) for your information.

The secretariat of the UNPFII continues to enjoy working with you.

Yours sincerely



Elsa Stamatopoulou  
Chief,  
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum  
on Indigenous Issues



**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: Limited  
29 January 2009

Original: English

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**Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**  
**Eighth session**  
New York, 18-29 May 2009  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*  
**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

**Proposed organization of work**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The proposed organization of work for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was prepared by the secretariat of the Permanent Forum in consultation with members of the Permanent Forum.

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\* E/C.19/2009/L.1.



**First week****Monday, 18 May**

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Opening of the session

Item 1

Election of officers

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Item 3

Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on:

(a) Economic and social development

- Analysis report
- Report of the expert group meeting on extractive industries, indigenous peoples' rights and corporate responsibility
- Special rapporteurs' report on indigenous peoples and corporations

3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Item 3

*(continued)***Tuesday, 19 May**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Item 3

*(continued)*

(b) Indigenous women

- Analysis report
- Urban indigenous women and migration

3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Item 3

*(continued)*

(c) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

- Analysis report

**Wednesday, 20 May**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Closed meeting

3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Item 4

Human rights:

(a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- Report of the expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

(b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people and other special rapporteurs

**Thursday, 21 May**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Item 4

*(continued)*

3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Item 5

Half-day discussion on the Arctic

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<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/programme</i>
<b>Friday, 22 May</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 6 Comprehensive dialogue with six United Nations agencies and funds Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development United Nations Development Programme United Nations Population Funds Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 6 <i>(continued)</i>
<b>Second week</b>	
<b>Monday, 25 May</b>	Public holiday (Memorial Day)
<b>Tuesday, 26 May</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 6 <i>(continued)</i>
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 6 <i>(continued)</i>
<b>Wednesday, 27 May</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 7 Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special rapporteur's report on climate change</li> <li>• Special rapporteur's report on land tenure</li> </ul>
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 7 <i>(continued)</i>
<b>Thursday, 28 May</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 8 Draft agenda for the ninth session of the Permanent Forum
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 8 <i>(continued)</i>
<b>Friday, 29 May</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 9 Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its eighth session
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 9 <i>(continued)</i> Closing of the session

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## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **Working Methods for UNPFII in-depth dialogue with six United Nations Agencies**

#### ***A. Purpose***

The purpose of the in-depth dialogue is to:

- Allow UN agencies to take stock of their progress, identify gaps in regards to indigenous peoples' issues and to re-focus their actions as appropriate (thematically, budgetary, methodologically, regionally, or otherwise).
- Facilitate better understanding of the challenges and opportunities that UN agencies face in discharging their mandates regarding indigenous peoples' issues in order to strengthen cooperation between each agency, governments and indigenous peoples.
- Increase awareness of indigenous peoples' organizations of the various instruments and services of UN agencies.

#### ***B. Preparation***

In order to facilitate the in-depth dialogue, the following will be available:

- Previous reports from UN agencies will be available to the Forum members. If they so choose, agencies can submit a comprehensive report on their work, not exceeding 8,000 words on indigenous issues (implementation of the UNPFII recommendations; analysis or assessment of current work; gaps and possible solutions).
- UNPFII members will study the information and prepare questions for the dialogue. UN agencies will be provided the questions ahead of time in order to prepare responses.
- UNPFII participants (both governments and indigenous organizations) will be invited to submit information to UNPFII on the UN agencies, in advance of the session as well as during the proceeding.

#### ***C. The in-depth dialogue***

Each agency will have approximately two hours for their in-depth dialogue. The dialogue can take various formats:

- One UN agency delegation's discussion with the Forum may take place, or two or three delegations together may appear as a panel for discussions with the Forum (especially when UN agencies have some overlapping mandates).
- High-level representation (of UN agencies) is important in order to engage UN agencies at both policy and expert level.
- The in-depth dialogues will require time management by the Chair.

#### ***D. Outcome of the in-depth dialogue***

UNPFII members will make recommendations and provide expert advice on UN agencies' work on indigenous peoples' issues.

## **ATTACHMENT C**

### **Item 6 Comprehensive dialogue with six United Nations Agencies and Funds**

**Permanent Forum members who will be focal points for the in-depth dialogues with six UN agencies:**

Office of the High Commission on Human Rights (OHCHR) - Mr Hassan Id Balkassm, Mr Carsten Smith, Mr. Bartolome Clavero.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Ms Tonya Gonnella Frichner, Ms. Elisa Canqui Mollo.

International Fund for Development (IFAD) - Ms. Elisa Canqui Mollo, Ms Margaret Lokawua.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) - Mr Michael Dodson, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Mr. Eugenio Insigne, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

United Nations Population Funds (UNFPA) - Ms. Paimaneh Hasteh, Ms. Liliane Muzangi Mbela.