



United Nations

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**Report on the twenty-third session
(15–26 April 2024)**

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Note

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Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention . . .	4
A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council	4
I. International expert group meeting on the theme “The rights of Indigenous Peoples, including those in voluntary isolation and initial contact in the context of the extraction of critical minerals”	4
II. Venue and dates of the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	4
III. Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda of its twenty-fourth session.	4
B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council	5
II. Venue, dates and proceedings of the session	24
III. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-third session	26
IV. Organization of the session	27
A. Opening and duration of the session	27
B. Attendance	27
C. Election of officers	27
D. Agenda	27
E. Documentation.	28

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

International expert group meeting on the theme “The rights of Indigenous Peoples, including those in voluntary isolation and initial contact in the context of the extraction of critical minerals”

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme “The rights of Indigenous Peoples, including those in voluntary isolation and initial contact in the context of the extraction of critical minerals”.

Draft decision II

Venue and dates of the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council decides that the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters from 21 April to 2 May 2025.

Draft decision III

Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda of its twenty-fourth session

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twenty-third session;
- (b) Approves the provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum as set out below:
 1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 3. Discussion on the theme “Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within United Nations Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges”.
 4. Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

5. Dialogues:
 - (a) Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with Member States;
 - (c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
 - (d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022);
 - (e) Interregional, intergenerational and global dialogue;
 - (f) Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities;
 - (g) Thematic dialogue on the financing of Indigenous Peoples' work and participation across the multilateral and regional system.
6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues.
7. Provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the Permanent Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-fourth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

Decision of the Permanent Forum

2. The following oral decision adopted by the Forum at its 1st meeting, on 15 April, is brought to the attention of the Council:

The Forum decides to continue to nominate seven members to its Bureau henceforth, to better represent each of its seven regional groups.

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum

3. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

4. It is the understanding of the Permanent Forum that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations as set out below will be implemented to the extent possible within the context of the approved programme of work of the relevant entities.

Discussion on the theme “Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth” (item 3)

5. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues expresses its profound appreciation to the Vice-President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, David Choquehuanca Céspedes, and to the Minister for Indigenous Peoples of Brazil, Sônia Guajajara, for their presence and welcomes their interventions at the session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

6. The right to self-determination and autonomy is central to strengthening Indigenous Peoples politically, socially, culturally and economically, and to enabling Indigenous Peoples to design their own future consistent with their views and cultural norms. The advancement by States of the right to self-determination is essential to enable Indigenous Peoples to protect and fully realize all other rights set forth in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the right to make decisions regarding their people, lands, territories and resources.

7. The Permanent Forum welcomes the study transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled “Guiding principles for the implementation of Indigenous Peoples’ rights to autonomy and self-government” (E/C.19/2024/3), which includes global examples of situations in which the rights to autonomy and self-determination come into play and the pivotal role of unified visions and objectives in the quest of Indigenous Peoples towards fully realizing autonomy and self-government.

8. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the statements made by the Vice-President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on the establishment of a virtual platform entitled “Codes of living well of the ancestral peoples of the world”; by James Anaya, calling upon States to guarantee Indigenous Peoples’ rights to self-determination and participation in all decision-making processes; and by the Co-Chair of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, Makanalani Gomes, calling upon States to recognize Indigenous determinants of health in self-determination and the importance not only of the intergenerational transmission of Indigenous knowledge, but also of Indigenous youth leadership and participation.

9. The Permanent Forum recalls that the right to self-determination of Indigenous Peoples is grounded in the Declaration, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Permanent Forum calls upon all Member States to redouble efforts to fully realize the right of self-determination for Indigenous Peoples by ensuring that Indigenous Peoples remain at the centre of all decision-making processes that affect their Peoples, their communities, their lands, their territories and their resources. Furthermore, States should ensure that the right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination is honoured and advanced in all instances where laws, policies, programmes and funding may affect Indigenous Peoples.

10. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation that Member States review and revise their constitutions and legal frameworks to comprehensively recognize the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the right to self-determination. Such review and revision processes should be driven and guided by Indigenous Peoples. The Forum also recommends that Member States develop and adopt specific national action plans to ensure that all policies and laws conform with the recognition and advancement of the right to self-determination, including self-governance and autonomy. The Forum further recommends that States engage in processes focused on decolonization and reconciliation policies that facilitate the path of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination, with the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples.

11. The Permanent Forum emphasizes the essential role of Indigenous Peoples' languages and cultural practices in self-determination and urges Member States to adopt stronger measures to protect them from erosion and loss. The Forum decries the ongoing destruction of cultural heritage sites and the loss of Indigenous Peoples' languages, urging immediate protective measures through robust legal and policy frameworks aligned with the Declaration.

12. The Permanent Forum highlights the pivotal role of Indigenous women and elders in transmitting cultural values and traditions, recognizing their critical influence on the sustainability of Indigenous cultures. The Forum calls upon Member States to support the establishment of mechanisms for the empowerment of Indigenous women and girls, and calls for their equal involvement and participation in decision-making processes at all levels.

13. The Permanent Forum is concerned by the adverse effects of climate change and irresponsible resource extraction on Indigenous Peoples' lands and territories. The Forum calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other international organizations to support Indigenous-led initiatives to mitigate these impacts and stresses the importance of self-governance of Indigenous Peoples in managing these natural resources.

Indigenous youth

14. Indigenous youth are proactively championing Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination, intertwining Indigenous knowledge to ensure that Indigenous Peoples' cosmovisions are integral in shaping policies at all levels.

15. Indigenous youth face significant barriers, including discrimination and marginalization, which critically impede their ability to practise and sustain their culture, traditions, languages and identities. The Forum draws attention to the high rates of suicide among Indigenous youth, and reiterates its call for Indigenous determinants of health, with a focus on youth and children, to be addressed. Enhancing legal frameworks, policymaking processes and international collaboration is vital to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous youth in self-determination.

16. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States and the United Nations system develop and support educational and leadership programmes tailored to the needs of Indigenous youth, enabling them to fulfil their potential as leaders and protectors of their cultures and territories.

17. The Permanent Forum urges Member States to make significant investments in bilingual and culturally appropriate primary, secondary and higher education programmes, including mobile education initiatives for nomadic, semi-nomadic and mobile communities. Furthermore, the Forum calls upon Member States to establish effective mechanisms to ensure Indigenous youth occupy central roles in policy and political arenas and to break down barriers to their full political participation and leadership.

18. The Permanent Forum regrets the outcome and impact of the "Indigenous Voice" referendum on Indigenous Peoples, in particular Indigenous youth, held in Australia in 2023, which undermines their journey towards the full realization of the right to self-determination for Indigenous Peoples. The Forum urges the Government of Australia to implement the Declaration.

19. The Permanent Forum recognizes the grave challenges faced by the Indigenous Peoples of Ukraine – the Crimean Tatars, Karaites and Krymchaks – as a result of Russian aggression against Ukraine, which greatly affects their right to self-determination.

20. The Permanent Forum welcomes the proposal by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia concerning a law on free, prior and informed consent. The Forum calls for this law to be adopted and to reflect the Declaration, ensuring the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples throughout the process and promoting the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' own free, prior and informed consent protocols.

21. The rights of Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact continue to face grave threats of dispossession and destruction of their ancestral territories, as well as the risk of genocide, owing to the lack of recognition of their rights. These threats include encroachment by extractive industries and the rapid imposition of monocultures, deforestation, violence, and the presence and proselytism of missionaries, including Mennonite groups. The Permanent Forum urges the application and observance of guidelines and recommendations by regional and international entities, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, for the protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact.

22. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States and the United Nations make additional and more steadfast efforts to collect data and perform research regarding Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact and the effects of such data and research. The Forum reiterates its recommendation that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in cooperation with regional bodies and Indigenous Peoples, advance the protection of Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation and in initial contact.

23. The Permanent Forum recognizes the history of the placement of Indigenous children in boarding and residential schools without free, prior and informed consent, where there have been dramatically grave negative impacts on the well-being and identity development of Indigenous students, on their families, and on the communities and cultures of Indigenous Peoples in all sociocultural regions. The Forum recommends that States find mechanisms to redress the harms caused by boarding and residential schools, and engage in effective reconciliation efforts. With respect to French Guiana specifically, the Forum calls upon the Government of France to establish a truth commission to investigate the conditions of boarding and residential schools in France and its overseas territories. The Government of France should adopt measures for healing, reparation and rehabilitation. The commission should guarantee gender equality in terms of inclusion and ensure the full participation of the Indigenous Peoples affected.

Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (item 4)

Health of Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous women and girls

24. The Permanent Forum recognizes that targeted measures, including health-care services and culturally safe policies, are essential to address the fact that Indigenous Peoples experience disproportionately high rates of suicide, poverty and incarceration.

25. The Permanent Forum welcomes the study transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Improving the health and wellness of Indigenous Peoples globally: operationalization of Indigenous determinants of health" (E/C.19/2024/5). The Forum recognizes that the Indigenous determinants of health framework contains 33 risk and protective factors that empower United Nations entities and Member States to improve the health and wellness of Indigenous Peoples. Those entities and

Member States must adopt the framework to operationalize the Indigenous determinants of health globally.

26. The Permanent Forum reiterates the recommendation it made at its twenty-second session that Member States ratify and uphold the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on a communications procedure. The Forum expresses deep concern over the high incidences of suicide, trauma from harsh incarceration conditions, and adverse experiences in out-of-home care affecting Indigenous children and adolescents in Australia and globally.

27. The Permanent Forum recognizes the urgent need to increase commitment to the health of Indigenous women globally, as their health needs are often underserved and they lack culturally appropriate care, including as a result of the criminalization of traditional childbirth practices. The Forum urges Member States and United Nations entities to collaborate in developing programmes and allocating funds that prioritize the health of, and midwifery services for, Indigenous Women; and in increasing the visibility of the situation with regard to the health of Indigenous women through more disaggregated data. The Forum calls for the revision of discriminatory laws affecting Indigenous women. The Forum invites the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund to partner in identifying and documenting good practices of culturally appropriate health interventions from their work at the country level, including supporting Indigenous women and girls in exercising their sexual and reproductive rights. The Forum requests that the entities compile a comprehensive progress report, to be submitted at the 2025 session of the Forum.

28. The Permanent Forum remains concerned that Indigenous women and girls experience widespread discrimination and violence. The Forum congratulates the Government of Australia for its commitment to end violence against Indigenous women by undertaking to establish a national action plan consistent with the advice of United Nations treaty bodies and experts. The Forum reiterates its call for Member States that have not yet done so to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and general recommendation No. 39 (2022) on the rights of Indigenous women and girls of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; to ensure the rights of Indigenous women to full, effective and meaningful participation in decision-making at national and United Nations system agencies; and to ensure the availability of sustainable financing and resources to support initiatives for Indigenous women and youth.

Indigenous Peoples' rights: economic and social development, culture, environment, education and human rights

29. The Permanent Forum welcomes the report transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled "International expert group meeting on the theme 'Indigenous Peoples in a greening economy'" (E/C.19/2024/4) and urges Member States to integrate the proposed innovative practices and sustainable economic models into national policies while supporting Indigenous entrepreneurship with a view to upholding traditional knowledge and sustainable development.

30. The Permanent Forum welcomes the study transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Criminalization of Indigenous Peoples' human rights" (E/C.19/2024/6) and is alarmed by the disproportionate criminalization of Indigenous Peoples for defending their rights.

31. The Permanent Forum is deeply concerned about circumstances in which Indigenous Peoples are deprived of essential services and experience violence, including gender-based violence. The Forum urges Member States and United Nations entities to protect displaced Indigenous Peoples, including refugees, and calls

upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to conduct global and regional studies, by 2026, on the needs of displaced Indigenous Peoples and to update the Forum at its 2025 session. Furthermore, the Forum urges UNHCR to join the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues.

32. The Permanent Forum is alarmed by the continuation of violations against Indigenous leaders and the exploitation of lands and territories, including treaty lands and other forms of land titles, of Indigenous Peoples as a result of extractive activities, including the extraction of critical minerals for the clean energy transition without the free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples.

33. The Permanent Forum supports the call of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to redress treaty violations. Indigenous Peoples deprived of treaty rights are also at risk; the Forum urges relevant States to adopt constructive agreements and appropriate laws to ensure Indigenous lands and territories are protected in the face of mineral extraction and development.

34. The Permanent Forum recognizes the need for the United States of America to honour its treaty obligations with tribes. The Forum calls upon the Government of the United States to ensure the return of lands that house boarding schools to Indigenous Peoples.

35. The Permanent Forum reiterates that the Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline jeopardizes the Great Lakes and poses a real and credible threat to the human rights of Indigenous Peoples in Canada and the United States. The Forum reiterates its call for Canada and the United States to decommission Line 5.

36. The Permanent Forum is concerned over the decision of the Supreme Administrative Court of Finland to include individuals not recognized by the Sami community in the Sami Parliament's electoral roll. The Forum urges the Parliament of Finland to amend the Sami Parliament Act in line with Sami Parliament proposals to protect the Sami People's right to self-determination and ensure that their electoral processes reflect their standards of community membership.

37. The Permanent Forum urges the Governments of Chile and France to adhere to their international obligations under the Declaration, and to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Rapa Nui People (Chile) and the Indigenous Peoples of the overseas territories of France and resolve ongoing conflicts.

38. The Permanent Forum notes the proactive measures of the Governments of Honduras and Indonesia to integrate Indigenous Peoples' rights within national land rights and environmental conservation frameworks. Furthermore, the Forum reiterates its concerns regarding the ongoing situation in West Papua, in particular the conflict with regard to Indigenous Peoples, and encourages the Government of Indonesia to extend invitations to United Nations special procedures mandate holders to conduct country visits.

39. The United Nations Summit of the Future should ensure mechanisms are established for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples.

40. The Permanent Forum recognizes that education systems must be culturally safe and support Indigenous Peoples' languages. The Forum reiterates the urgent need for Member States to protect Indigenous Peoples' languages, both spoken and written, during the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, by adopting appropriate laws and policies.

Dialogues: dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes (item 5 (c))

41. The Permanent Forum heard from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on their activities to implement the system-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the recommendations issued by the Forum. The Forum appreciates the continued work to support the rights of Indigenous Peoples including the outcome document of the meeting held in Rome in February 2024 of the Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the increased focus on including Indigenous youth and financing for Indigenous Peoples.

42. The Permanent Forum urges United Nations entities to strengthen and facilitate the engagement of Indigenous youth in decision-making processes across all United Nations processes. Initiatives should focus on mentorship, capacity-building, knowledge exchange and the creation of advisory roles specific to Indigenous youth and Indigenous youth caucuses that facilitate active participation and leadership.

43. The Permanent Forum welcomes the 2023 Indigenous youth Rome Declaration on Safeguarding Seven Generations in times of Food, Social, and Ecological Crisis that resulted from the second session of the Global Indigenous Youth Forum organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Forum encourages FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Forum to hold regional consultations in all seven Indigenous regions before the third session of the Global Indigenous Youth Forum in 2025.

44. The Permanent Forum urges the States members of the World Intellectual Property Organization to ensure the full participation of Indigenous People, including developing safeguards to protect their knowledge and adopting a treaty to protect Indigenous Peoples' genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and medicine, at the Diplomatic Conference on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge to be held in 2024.

45. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank strengthen platforms for dialogue with Indigenous Peoples at all levels to create strategic opportunities that will give a voice to Indigenous Peoples' priorities and concerns. The Forum further calls upon the World Bank to enhance and expand direct financing mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples, specifically linking these to national programmes, policy dialogue, and investments for sustainability in all ecosystems.

46. The Permanent Forum invites the Development Coordination Office to include Forum members in its future meetings with resident coordinators for Indigenous Peoples' issues to be heard and to share experiences on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national level.

47. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations system establish regional inter-agency working groups on Indigenous Peoples' issues in regions that have not done so, in order to enable a coherent regional approach, similar to the approach taken in Latin America.

48. The Permanent Forum thanks Finance in Common, a global network of public development banks, for its invitation to the fourth Finance in Common Summit. The Forum encourages the continuation of collaborative efforts to enhance support for the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

49. The Permanent Forum calls upon the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund, the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Readiness Fund and the locally led Adaptation Fund, among

others, to establish a mechanism for enhanced direct access for Indigenous Peoples by limiting intermediary organizations, with flexible access and transparent criteria that correspond to the needs of Indigenous Peoples.

50. The Permanent Forum welcomes the initiative of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues to create a working group on finance. The Forum encourages the working group to consult Forum members regularly and to build initiatives to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous Peoples to manage finance and access financial institutions.

Dialogues: human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022) (item 5 (d))

51. The Permanent Forum welcomes the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in which green financing and a just transition to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples are explored and the impact of militarization on the rights of Indigenous Peoples is assessed.

52. Extractive industries and green energy projects often lead to the dispossession and militarization of Indigenous Peoples' lands, territories and resources. Indigenous leaders and human rights defenders opposing such initiatives become targets of reprisals, with Indigenous women at risk of sexual assault, gender-based killings and trafficking.

53. The Permanent Forum is concerned about the harms and injustices caused in certain instances by carbon markets and biodiversity credits on Indigenous Peoples' lands and territories and biodiversity. The Forum urges the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to demand high-integrity projects that have clear accountability for carbon emissions and biodiversity as well as measured benefits for Indigenous Peoples. The Forum invites the aforementioned entities to report on their actions at its session in 2025.

54. The Permanent Forum notes the significant impact of conservation policies on the lands and territories of Indigenous Peoples. Conservation efforts worldwide must recognize and respect the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples to their lands, territories and resources. The Forum also notes that Indigenous Peoples have long been sustainable and responsible stewards of their lands, territories and resources; and effective and sustainable management must include and benefit from the leadership and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and incorporate the principles of free, prior and informed consent.

55. The Forum welcomes the presentation by OHCHR on its joint work with the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on intimidation and reprisals. It expresses concern over the intimidation of Indigenous leaders and human rights defenders for their participation in this year's session of the Forum. Their right to freedom of expression and opinion must be upheld. The Forum will refine its procedures to monitor and redress instances of reprisals against participants.

56. The Forum urges international bodies and national Governments to allocate funding and develop policies for training and certifying interpreters in Indigenous Peoples' languages, ensuring that they receive equitable compensation and support. These measures are vital for maintaining linguistic heritage and promoting inclusivity and equity in public services and judicial proceedings.

57. Emphasizing the importance of Indigenous Peoples' access to media as a collective right, the Permanent Forum endorses General Assembly resolution [78/189](#) and Human Rights Council resolution [54/12](#), including the call for the promotion of national policies, practices and funding programmes that enable capacity-building and content production in Indigenous Peoples' languages, international cooperation among Indigenous media and other partners, including mainstream media and Governments.
58. The Permanent Forum commends the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on its progress in following up on the Forum's recommendation that UNESCO conduct a study on Indigenous media and invites it to present its findings at the next session of the Forum.
59. The Permanent Forum urges the European Union to include the standards of the Declaration within its corporate sustainability due diligence regulations and rules, in particular in the context of implementing the Critical Raw Materials Act on the territories of Indigenous Peoples, both inside and outside the European Union.
60. The Permanent Forum heard reports from Māori Indigenous Peoples that the Government of New Zealand had departed from the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) and taken measures against the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the disbandment of Te Aka Whai Ora, the Māori health authority. The Forum urges the State and Government of New Zealand to uphold the distinct rights of Māori Indigenous Peoples.
61. The Permanent Forum welcomes the efforts by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to engage with the Maasai people from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The Forum calls upon the Government to immediately cease efforts to evict the Maasai people from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, and to enable the country visit of the Special Rapporteur.
62. The Permanent Forum welcomes the Community Land Act of Kenya, which represents a critical step towards securing the land rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum reiterates its recommendation that the Government of Kenya implement a sustainable system of equitable land tenure to prevent further evictions of the Ogiek community in the Mau forest, and calls upon the Government to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the sustainable management of forests and to comply with the decision of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.
63. The Permanent Forum calls upon the Security Council to address conflicts on Indigenous lands and territories in its meetings under the peace and security agenda, with the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples.
64. The Permanent Forum is concerned about reports highlighting the devastating impacts of armed conflicts on Indigenous Peoples, including displacements and conscription, seen in Myanmar and the Russian Federation, and the territories the latter occupies.
65. The Permanent Forum reiterates the recommendation it made to the United States at its twenty-second session to grant clemency to Leonard Peltier.
66. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the existence of gender-diverse Indigenous Peoples, including two-spirit peoples, worldwide, and calls upon the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples to ensure that two-spirit Indigenous Peoples are not prevented from participating in United Nations processes.
67. The Permanent Forum recommends that the Pan American Health Organization and all regional United Nations health entities ensure that their mandates address the rights of Indigenous Peoples, separate from minority, diversity and intercultural

approaches, in compliance with the Declaration and the WHO resolution on Indigenous health.

68. The Permanent Forum appreciates the organization of a seminar on advances and challenges in the implementation of the Declaration, which was held in Mexico City and attended by Indigenous experts from Latin America, and which resulted in a series of recommendations included in the document “Mexico-Tenochtitlán Agreements on the Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”. The Forum calls upon the organizers of that seminar to report on progress made with regard to those recommendations in the outcome document of the seminar.

69. The Forum welcomes the work of the Government of Bangladesh to support peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The Forum calls upon the Government to prioritize the implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord of 1997 and to assess the implementation status of the Accord through full, meaningful and effective participation of the Accord signatory party, the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti, Chittagong Hill Tracts regional institutions and traditional governing bodies.

Annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022)

70. The Permanent Forum calls upon the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the issue of gender equality and the empowerment of Indigenous women and girls as a priority theme in its next multi-year programme of work in 2025.

71. The Permanent Forum welcomes the progress made by OHCHR in translating Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women general recommendation No. 39 (2022) into Aymara, Nahuatl, Moxeño Trinitario, Q’eqchi, Kaqchikel and Guaraní, and calls upon OHCHR to continue to expand its efforts to translate the recommendation into Indigenous languages throughout the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, before the end of 2032.

Dialogues: regional dialogues (item 5 (e))

72. The Permanent Forum held seven regional dialogues: Africa; the Arctic; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean; Central and Eastern Europe, the Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific. The aim was to engage the participants in deeper dialogue on relevant issues and on challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples in the various regions.

Africa

73. The Permanent Forum welcomed the progress made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana and Namibia in advancing the rights of Indigenous Peoples’ in those countries.

74. The lack of recognition of Indigenous Peoples violates their right to self-determination. Their legal recognition should be aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the report of the Working Group of Experts on Indigenous Populations/Communities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights.¹ The Permanent Forum invites African Governments to join groups of friends of Indigenous Peoples.

75. The Permanent Forum notes that the concern expressed elsewhere in the present report about the extraction of critical minerals applies equally to Indigenous Peoples

¹ See https://www.iwgia.org/images/publications/African_Commission_book.pdf.

in Africa. The Forum also underscores the importance of fully integrating Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems into conservation initiatives.

76. The dialogue highlighted the challenges Indigenous Peoples from Africa face in participating in United Nations meetings, including logistical obstacles in obtaining visas and a lack of financial resources. The Permanent Forum invites African States to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and called for common efforts to facilitate visa processes in order to ensure the participation of African Indigenous Peoples, including women and youth.

77. The Permanent Forum is concerned about the impacts of climate change in the Sahel and Great Lakes regions, which have triggered armed conflicts and displacement, and heightened the vulnerability of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum calls for regional climate action.

78. The Permanent Forum calls upon African States and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to safeguard Indigenous Peoples' languages and to develop culturally appropriate education systems for Indigenous children and youth. The Forum also encourages the development of initiatives to prioritize Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems, especially for women and girls.

79. The Permanent Forum reiterates its call upon African Member States to extend invitations to the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and other mandate holders to conduct country visits to foster transparent and constructive dialogue. The Forum notes the invitations from the Governments of Namibia and the United Republic of Tanzania to the Special Rapporteur to undertake country visits and invites Member States to provide financial support to realize these visits.

80. The Permanent Forum highlights the importance of creating direct and accessible finance for African Indigenous Peoples to implement the three Rio conventions (the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa) and the Sustainable Development Goals, as specified in the study transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Financing the future: the financial needs of Indigenous Peoples to support their actions for biodiversity, climate and the protection of Mother Earth" (E/C.19/2024/7).

Arctic

81. In the Arctic region, Indigenous Peoples constitute the majority of the population in certain jurisdictions. It is thus important not to refer to Indigenous Peoples as minorities. There is, however, a disparity in the ways in which the rights of Indigenous Peoples are protected and supported across the region. In certain areas, Indigenous Peoples freely exercise autonomy and self-government, while, in others, these rights are restricted. The Permanent Forum emphasizes the need to focus on the equal participation of Indigenous women in decision-making at all levels.

82. The Permanent Forum urges the Governments of Canada and Denmark and the government of Greenland to follow up on and implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur subsequent to his country visits in 2023. The Forum recommends that a human rights-based approach be taken when investigating and addressing the practices and impacts of the so-called intrauterine device campaign affecting Inuit women and adolescents in Greenland.

83. The Permanent Forum urges actions by States in addressing the racism suffered by Inuit peoples, particularly those residing outside Inuit Nunaat. The Forum is concerned about the high incidence of child removals by child welfare systems legitimized by psychometric tests adapted to non-Inuit peoples.

84. The Permanent Forum is deeply alarmed by the impact of war and armed conflict. The Forum calls upon Member States to impose an immediate moratorium on military conscription among Arctic Indigenous Peoples.

85. The Permanent Forum supports the invitation from the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous youth in the Arctic region to apply for travel grants and for the Indigenous Fellowship Programme.

86. The Permanent Forum encourages the full participation of Indigenous Peoples in environmental assessment processes, including in the context of possible deep-sea mining, as such participation also guarantees the contributions of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge. Given the length of the Arctic coastlines, Indigenous Peoples need to be involved in the monitoring of relevant international shipping routes and their impacts on marine biodiversity and seabeds.

87. The Permanent Forum notes the relevance of the Declaration in the context of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages and recommends the active use of Indigenous languages in the description and names of Indigenous Peoples' homelands and their landscapes and environmental features, as doing so strengthens the sense of belonging and identity, as well as making Indigenous languages visible and omnipresent.

Asia

88. The Asia regional dialogue with Member States in Asia highlighted issues including Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination, in particular the right to lands, territories and resources; the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' identity; the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making; and, in particular, issues that directly affect their well-being, such as the implementation of the Declaration at the national and international levels with practical outcomes, and actions in addressing climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

89. The Permanent Forum heard that the lack of recognition of Indigenous Peoples by Member States leads to inadequate legal protection and enforcement. For instance, a declaration on environmental rights is currently being drafted by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission for Human Rights with no representation from Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples have profound concerns in this regard, and appeal for urgent global support and solidarity to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples are aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

90. Indigenous Peoples noted the ongoing challenges faced by Indigenous media and Indigenous journalists and called for better protection and freedom of expression in the Asia region.

91. The dialogue emphasized the significance of collaborating with the Special Rapporteur on the effects of conflicts on Indigenous Peoples, with a focus on safeguarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples, especially Indigenous women, children and youth, in conflict-affected areas.

92. The Permanent Forum notes that Indigenous Peoples in Asia must not, under any circumstances, be deprived of their fundamental human rights under the Declaration or of direct access to international financial support.

Central and South America and the Caribbean

93. The Permanent Forum calls upon States to revise national public policies and programmes to include a culturally appropriate perspective, in particular in policies

and programmes for reproductive health services so that Indigenous women can receive quality health services.

94. Indigenous Peoples of the region pointed out the complex relationship between cultural diversity and democracy. Indigenous Peoples experience limitations to meaningful participation in institutions, and lack decision-making capacity in legislative, executive and judicial bodies, where norms, budgets and public policies are established. This situation has led to a lack of respect for autonomy and self-determination, increased criminalization of Indigenous Peoples' leaders and human rights defenders, a lack of proper consultation to obtain free, prior and informed consent, extractivism and deforestation of Indigenous Peoples' lands and territories.

95. The Permanent Forum heard that, in the name of safeguarding democracy, Governments in the region had implemented exceptional measures that favour repression and criminalization, promote authoritarianism, and suppress protests and demands for self-governance. Indigenous Peoples expressed concern that the results of electoral mechanisms such as referendums were not respected.

96. Indigenous Peoples also pointed out the alarming increase in criminalization, attacks, killings and arbitrary detention of Indigenous Peoples' leaders and human rights defenders, with Indigenous Peoples' justice systems being ignored. The Permanent Forum was informed about hate speech and stigmatizing rhetoric associating Indigenous movements with illegal armed groups, thereby putting the lives of Indigenous Peoples at risk.

*Central and Eastern Europe, the Russian Federation, Central Asia
and Transcaucasia*

97. Indigenous Peoples' languages in the Russian Federation are endangered and may face extinction. It is imperative to enforce the Declaration in order to preserve these languages. Member States must commit to supporting and funding comprehensive programmes to preserve Indigenous Peoples' languages.

98. The Permanent Forum heard that the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine has exacerbated numerous risks for Indigenous Peoples, posing severe existential threats, including forced conscription, massive displacement and attacks targeting their identities. The increase in the criminalization of Indigenous leaders undermines Indigenous Peoples' representative institutions, further jeopardizing their collective rights.

99. Failing to consider the rights of Indigenous Peoples during the transition to green economies could perpetuate historical injustices and lead to further marginalization and discrimination of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the loss of their lands, territories and resources.

100. The Permanent Forum notes that boarding schools in the Russian Federation continue to affect Indigenous Peoples. Cases brought to the attention of the Forum highlighted discrimination in educational settings and the urgent need for equitable education policies. Member States must develop educational programmes tailored to meet the specific needs of Indigenous Peoples, in particular in remote areas. The superficial measures of the Government of the Russian Federation fail to empower Indigenous Peoples.

101. The youth council of the Krasnoyarsk Krai exemplifies engagement in preserving Indigenous Peoples' cultures and languages. Initiatives such as the "Siberian Argish" youth forum and collaborations with academic institutions highlight the importance of integrating traditional practices with modern technologies to maintain cultural continuity.

102. The Permanent Forum heard that industrial companies and authorities in the Russian Federation promoted certain “authorized bodies of Indigenous Peoples”, which in reality were run by State representatives claiming that only these organizations had the right to negotiate on behalf of Indigenous Peoples. In this regard, the Forum proposes that the Government of the Russian Federation revise the federal law on guarantees of the rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation.

103. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States in the region enhance the protection of Indigenous Peoples through recognition and autonomy, in line with the Declaration, by revising legal and policy frameworks. Governments should rectify the injustices of the colonial past, taking into consideration Indigenous Peoples and their perspectives, in particular those of Indigenous youth, ensuring the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making.

North America

104. The Permanent Forum welcomes the rich contributions from Indigenous Peoples and Member States during the North America regional dialogue. Indigenous Peoples have many strengths that can contribute positively to a diverse array of areas, such as health, sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

105. The Permanent Forum urges Canada and the United States to fund, expand and improve initiatives to end the epidemics that affect Indigenous Peoples, including the alarming rates of HIV, hepatitis C and sexually transmitted infections, especially among women, youth, persons with disabilities, and gender-diverse and two-spirited persons.

106. The rights of Indigenous Peoples to govern lands, to manage resources and to protect lands, territories and ecosystems must be upheld in line with the Declaration. The Permanent Forum is concerned that the bilateral agreements between Canada and the United States to divert or export water from Canada to the United States do not take into consideration Indigenous Peoples’ rights and water needs.

107. The Permanent Forum calls for support to be provided to displaced Mayan and other Indigenous Peoples permanently settled in Canada and the United States so that they are visible to authorities and culturally safe as per the Declaration, while upholding the treaty and trust rights of Indigenous Peoples in North America.

108. With many continuing areas of conflict globally, the Permanent Forum urgently calls upon Member States to focus on ways to achieve peace by utilizing Indigenous Peoples as peacebuilders.

109. The Permanent Forum supports the call for the establishment of an informal elders’ council of the Permanent Forum.

110. The Permanent Forum acknowledges the benefits of evaluating the Forum’s programme of work, operations, participation and tenure in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the passage of the Declaration.

The Pacific

111. The Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific region span a quarter of the globe. From Hawai’i in the north to the southernmost island of Aotearoa, and from Rapa Nui in the east over to the island of Papua and the shores of the Australian continent. The Permanent Forum heard Indigenous Peoples’ stories about violence, racism, discrimination, and Indigenous Peoples asserted their right to self-determination under the Declaration.

112. The Permanent Forum is alarmed at the removal of Indigenous children, based on policies and practices not suited to Indigenous Peoples, owing to a culture of discrimination and perceived risk aversion, rather than care and concern. This harmful practice disconnects Indigenous children from their culture, homes and families, with few ramifications for institutional decision makers.

113. The Permanent Forum heard about calls for a campaign in New Zealand to lower the voting age to 16 years of age, as young people have a greater stake in the future, yet very little influence over it.

114. The Permanent Forum is concerned about reprisals against land and environment defenders among Indigenous youth in the Pacific facing the destruction of their sacred sites and ecosystems. The Forum is also concerned about the impacts of extractive industries on Indigenous women and girls, noting the report by the Hawaiian authorities on murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls.

115. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights also urged Pacific Indigenous Peoples to utilize the Voluntary Fund and the Indigenous Fellowship Programme with a view to increasing their representation at United Nations meetings and within the United Nations system.

116. The Permanent Forum invites Member States to consider adopting an International Day of the Arts at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly in recognition of the arts in all their expressions, including Indigenous arts.

Dialogues: dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities (item 5 (f))

117. The Permanent Forum encourages United Nations entities that have platforms for Indigenous Peoples to continue to contribute to the deliberations of the Forum, including through the submission of conference room papers to further update the Forum. The Forum reiterates the importance of the sustained and consistent engagement of Indigenous Peoples at every stage of decision-making across the United Nations.

118. The Permanent Forum appreciates the joint work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur in following up on the recommendations regarding the conflation of the terms “local communities” and Indigenous Peoples. In joint declarations issued in July 2023 and February 2024 Member States, United Nations entities, foundations, funders and non-governmental organizations were called upon to cease the conflation of the terms. The Forum thanks the United Nations entities that have responded to that call and encourages their continued efforts in that regard.

119. The Permanent Forum reiterates that it has urged all United Nations entities and States parties to treaties concerning the environment, biodiversity and climate change to eliminate the use of the term “local communities” in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples, and to distinguish between the terms, in ongoing processes, policies and new international agreements at all levels.

120. The Permanent Forum encourages parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to ensure that progress is made with regard to institutional arrangements that guarantee human rights-based approaches to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, with the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples. In addition, the Forum calls upon the Conference of Parties to request its relevant subsidiary bodies to convene an ad hoc expert group meeting, with the participation of experts of the three United Nations mechanisms on Indigenous Peoples, to address the conflation of Indigenous Peoples with other groups of society and to develop specific actions to avoid such conflation.

121. The Permanent Forum welcomes the efforts of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change in addressing terminology related to Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The Forum urges Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to uphold the principles established during the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties in the upcoming review of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform at the twenty-ninth session, ensuring equal status and financial support for Indigenous Peoples within the Platform at all levels. The Forum supports the establishment of a separate platform for Indigenous Peoples.

122. The Permanent Forum welcomes the commitment of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples to enhance Indigenous Peoples' participation within United Nations entities. The Forum encourages Member States and other funders to support the Voluntary Fund and the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues.

123. The Permanent Forum urges Member States and relevant United Nations entities to strengthen and facilitate the engagement of Indigenous youth in decision-making across all United Nations processes, including the Summit of the Future.

124. The Forum calls upon international financial institutions to align policies and safeguards with the Declaration.

Dialogues: thematic dialogues, including on the financing of Indigenous Peoples' work and participation in the context of, inter alia, development, climate, environment and biodiversity (item 5 (g))

125. Worldwide, Indigenous Peoples are at the forefront of the protection and management of the environment and biodiversity of, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation in, on and around, their own lands and territories. Their management of 80 per cent of the world's biodiversity underlines the importance of strengthening their participation in environmental governance and resource management at the local, national and international levels. The Permanent Forum commends the many positive and encouraging examples of impactful projects and programmes for Indigenous Peoples related to the environment, sustainable development, cultural heritage, climate change, and biodiversity management and conservation.

126. As rights holders to their own lands, territories and resources, Indigenous knowledge is essential for sustainable development, including pertinent international processes and Conferences of the Parties, inter alia, to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; to the Convention on Biological Diversity; and to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. The Forum welcomes the study transmitted in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Financing the future: the financial needs of Indigenous Peoples to support their actions for biodiversity, climate and the protection of Mother Earth" (E/C.19/2024/7).

127. Indigenous Peoples expressed their discontent with the many obstacles to being truly able to protect and manage projects and actions within these fields, including from the encroachment of extractive industries by private and public business enterprises that threaten the health of ecosystems and the health and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples.

128. Concerns were also expressed about "green colonialism", where Indigenous lands and territories are used for green energy projects, such as for the placement of wind turbines, and for the extraction of minerals that are critical for the green transition, in complete disregard for Indigenous Peoples' rights, including free, prior and informed consent.

129. The Forum regrets that Indigenous Peoples living in environmental ecosystems and latitudes other than tropical and subtropical forests are ineligible for funding, including the \$1.7 billion pledge made at the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Forum advises the Forest Tenure Funders Group to promote a dialogue with United Nations mechanisms on the rights of Indigenous Peoples when defining the ongoing and future process of funding for Indigenous Peoples.

130. Despite the many good and innovative funder practices, there is still scope for private philanthropists and bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure a rights-based approach to funding, in conformity with the Declaration.

131. The Permanent Forum recognizes the need for more accountability and transparency of funding for Indigenous Peoples, as only a small fraction of international funding is directed to Indigenous Peoples and, when it is, such funding is directed through multilateral agencies, large environmental and conservation non-governmental organizations and other non-Indigenous intermediaries. Indigenous Peoples have a right to the financing of their environmental work.

132. The Permanent Forum urges Member States and financial institutions to enhance direct financial support for Indigenous Peoples-led projects with funding mechanisms that are equitable, non-discriminatory, accessible, flexible and responsive to Indigenous Peoples' self-determined priorities across all seven sociocultural regions, without political impediments that could obstruct fair resource allocation. Such support should empower Indigenous Peoples to manage their environmental resources and engage in sustainable economic activities without reliance on intermediaries.

133. The Permanent Forum recognizes the efforts of the Green Climate Fund and its Indigenous Peoples' advisory group, and recommends that the Fund develop a road map for dedicated, predictable funding for Indigenous Peoples, including through capacity-building at the national level to ensure that the Fund's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme² supports Indigenous Peoples. The Forum requests a progress report at its next session in 2025.

134. The Permanent Forum recognizes the importance of financing for Indigenous Peoples and appreciates the Global Environment Facility's target of allocating 20 per cent of its funds to support initiatives for Indigenous Peoples. The Forum urges the Facility to create direct financing mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples.

135. The Permanent Forum recommends that Member States strengthen and implement legal and institutional frameworks that recognize and protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their lands, territories and resources and ensure their participation in decision-making processes. Such frameworks should adhere to the Declaration and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization, ensuring Indigenous Peoples' free, prior and informed consent when development, environment, biodiversity and climate change programmes and projects are conducted on their lands and territories.

136. The Permanent Forum emphasizes the need for improved data collection and transparency in distributing funds designated for Indigenous Peoples. Such improvements will facilitate better tracking of financial flows and ensure that investments are aligned with the priorities identified by Indigenous Peoples, thus enhancing the accountability and effectiveness of funded projects.

137. The Permanent Forum reiterates its calls to Member States and international organizations to include Indigenous Peoples actively in policymaking forums and

² <https://www.greenclimate.fund/readiness>.

development agendas. This inclusion should extend to negotiations and management forums under multilateral environment agreements and other relevant platforms and processes focusing on issues affecting Indigenous Peoples and where their voices and knowledge guarantee significant contributions and outcomes for global sustainable development and the health of global ecosystems.

138. The Permanent Forum calls for increased investments in educational programmes and capacity-building initiatives that empower Indigenous Peoples to navigate legal and bureaucratic processes in managing their resources in keeping with their cultural and spiritual values and self-determined development. These initiatives should support the transmission of Indigenous knowledge and skills across generations, enhancing resilience and sustainability.

139. The Permanent Forum encourages and commends the development and implementation of environmental monitoring systems led by Indigenous Peoples that utilize the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and modern technology to oversee and manage natural resources effectively. Such approaches that are aligned with Indigenous Peoples' autonomy objectives provide valuable data for global environmental efforts.

140. The Permanent Forum encourages collaborative research initiatives for innovative solutions to environmental challenges that engage Indigenous Peoples as equal partners, respecting and integrating Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems with so-called "Western" scientific research and fostering mutual learning and respect between Indigenous Peoples and the mainstream scientific community.

141. The Permanent Forum supports the initiatives that empower Indigenous women, recognizing their roles as custodians of biodiversity and Indigenous knowledge. Programmes should address the specific needs and leadership roles of women within Indigenous Peoples' communities in order to ensure equitable participation in all funded projects.

142. The Permanent Forum welcomes the Paris Roadmap for Tracking of Funds, which sets out collaborative and coordinated action to address the systemic funding gaps for Indigenous Peoples. In this regard, the Forum reiterates the recommendation of its twenty-second session to Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to facilitate the tracking of funds in its statistical system by establishing relevant indicators, and invites the Development Assistance Committee to present on progress in this regard at the twenty-fourth session of the Forum in 2025.

Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues (item 6)

143. The Permanent Forum fully endorses the enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples and their representative institutions at the General Assembly and looks forward to the Human Rights Council intersessional meetings with the participation of Indigenous Peoples from all seven sociocultural regions. The Permanent Forum welcomes the appointment of Robert Rae, Víctor García Toma, Claire Winfield Ngamihi Charters and Belkacem Lounes to lead consultations during the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly on the enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples and their representative institutions. The Forum recommends that the Assembly and the Council ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in these processes and calls upon Member States to financially support the Indigenous Coordinating Body for Enhanced Participation in the United Nations.

144. The Permanent Forum recommends that the General Assembly conduct a high-level meeting in September 2027 to evaluate the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with the enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples as a key deliverable of the event. The Forum advocates for the support of Indigenous Peoples' preparatory efforts for that event by ensuring their full and effective participation and funding from Member States and the private sector.

145. The Permanent Forum welcomes the decision by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to establish a mechanism for the participation of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum recommends that States members of the Treaty Organization guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all processes with a view to developing the operational structure of the mechanism. The Forum invites the Treaty Organization to present a progress report at the next session of the Forum in 2025. The Forum welcomes the opportunity to provide its expertise to the Treaty Organization.

146. The Permanent Forum recalls that, in the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, Member States committed to "developing, in conjunction with the Indigenous Peoples concerned, fair transparent and effective mechanisms for ... repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains at the national and international levels". The Forum urges United Nations entities to accurately identify affected Indigenous Peoples and provide them with advance notice and applicable timelines for both identification and repatriation so that Indigenous Peoples can request the repatriation of their ancestral remains, cultural patrimony and sacred objects.

147. The Permanent Forum welcomes the expanded use of the Indigenous Navigator tool, providing Indigenous Peoples with the means to monitor the implementation of the Declaration, the commitments made at the World Conference and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum invites the Indigenous Navigator consortium to deliver a presentation at the twenty-fourth session of the Forum in 2025 and encourages donors to continue to support this invaluable data collection tool for and by Indigenous Peoples.

148. The Permanent Forum decided to conduct the following studies and to present them at its twenty-fourth session: "Reforms of global financial institutions and the rights of Indigenous Peoples", "Involvement of Indigenous Peoples in truth and reconciliation processes", "The rights of Indigenous Peoples in the context of critical minerals to ensure a just transition" and "Impact of colonization and armed conflicts on Indigenous Peoples' rights: the imperative of peacebuilding".

Chapter II

Venue, dates and proceedings of the session

149. By its decision 2023/340, the Economic and Social Council decided that the twenty-third session of the Permanent Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 26 April 2024.

150. At its 2nd and 7th meetings, on 15 and 19 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 4, entitled “Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it three notes by the Secretariat entitled “International expert group meeting on the theme ‘Indigenous Peoples in a greening economy’” (E/C.19/2024/4), “Criminalization of Indigenous Peoples’ human rights” (E/C.19/2024/6) and “Improving the health and wellness of Indigenous Peoples globally: operationalization of Indigenous determinants of health” (E/C.19/2024/5). At its 14th meeting, on 26 April, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

151. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 16 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 3, entitled “Discussion on the theme ‘Enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth’”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

152. At its 5th meeting, on 17 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (g), entitled “Thematic dialogues, including on the financing of Indigenous Peoples’ work and participation in the context of, inter alia, development, climate, environment and biodiversity”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Financing the future: the financial needs of Indigenous Peoples to support their actions for biodiversity, climate and the protection of Mother Earth” (E/C.19/2024/7). At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

153. At its 6th meeting, on 18 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (a), entitled “Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

154. At its 8th meeting, on 19 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (f), entitled “Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

155. At its 9th and 10th meetings, on 22 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (d), entitled “Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; annual review of progress on the implementation of general recommendation No. 39 (2022)”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

156. At its 11th meeting, on 23 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 6, entitled “Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on

Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

157. At its 12th meeting, on 23 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (c), entitled “Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

158. At its 13th meeting, on 25 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (b), entitled “Dialogue with Member States”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

159. At seven informal meetings, including two sets of two meetings held in parallel, on 25 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 5 (e), entitled “Regional dialogues”. At its 14th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

160. At three informal closed meetings, on 18, 24 and 26 April, the Permanent Forum met to hold discussions.

Chapter III

Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-third session

161. At the 14th meeting, the Rapporteur introduced the draft decisions and recommendations and the draft report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-third session.

162. At the same meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted its draft report.

Chapter IV

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

163. The Permanent Forum held its twenty-third session at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 26 April 2024. It held 14 formal meetings, including 3 closed meetings, and 10 informal meetings, including 3 other closed meetings and 2 meetings in parallel, twice, to consider the items on its agenda.

164. At the 1st meeting, on 15 April, the session was opened by the temporary Chair, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. At the opening ceremony, the traditional Chief of the Onondaga Nation, Tadodaho Sid Hill, delivered a welcoming address.

165. At the same meeting, statements were made by the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the Vice-President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Minister for Indigenous Peoples of Brazil.

B. Attendance

166. Members of the Permanent Forum and representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and bodies, United Nations entities and non-governmental and Indigenous organizations attended the session. The list of participants will be published in due course.

C. Election of officers

167. At its 1st meeting, the Permanent Forum elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chair:

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim

Vice-Chairs:

Keith M. Harper

Aluki Kotierk

Hannah McGlade

Hanieh Moghani

Rodrigo Eduardo Paillalef Monnard

Rapporteur:

Suleiman Mamutov

D. Agenda

168. At its 1st meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted the provisional agenda contained in document [E/C.19/2024/1](#).

E. Documentation

169. The list of the documents before the Permanent Forum at its twenty-third session will be published in due course.

