



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
1 February 2024

Original: English

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Twenty-third session

New York, 15–26 April 2024

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

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

Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and implementation of 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

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report contains a brief compilation of the information received from United Nations system entities in response to a questionnaire on the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 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 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The complete responses are available online at <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii/23rd-session>.

* E/C.19/2024/1.



I. Introduction

1. In 2002, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was established as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council and mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on Indigenous issues to the Council and, through the Council, to the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations. Its mandate includes raising awareness and promoting the integration and coordination of activities related to Indigenous issues within the United Nations system; preparing and disseminating information on Indigenous issues;¹ promoting respect for and full application of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and following up on the effectiveness of the Declaration.² To that end, it makes recommendations in the areas of economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights.

2. In 2016, a system-wide action plan for a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the Declaration³ was developed by the United Nations system, in response to the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. In 2020, a report entitled “Building an inclusive sustainable and resilient future with Indigenous Peoples”⁴ was adopted by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues has been working on its implementation.

3. While several United Nations system entities have improved their efforts to follow up on the recommendations of the Forum and the system-wide action plan with respect to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, there is still a need for stronger responses at the country level to ensure adequate implementation of the Forum’s recommendations pertaining to the Declaration. Indeed, the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require the concerted and coherent effort of agencies, funds and programmes that have no experience working with Indigenous Peoples.

4. A questionnaire on the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Forum, together with the system-wide action plan and the 2030 Agenda, was sent to 52 entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies in October 2023. As at 30 November 2023, responses had been received from the following United Nations entities: the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Development Coordination Office, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The complete responses of all United Nations entities and other

¹ See [E/C.12/1999/11-E/2000/22](#) and [E/C.12/1999/11/Corr.1-E/2000/22/Corr.1](#).

² See art. 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

³ See www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2017/04/system-wide-action-plan-swap-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples/.

⁴ See <https://unsceb.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/CEB-Call-to-Action-Indigenous-2020-WEB%20%281%29.pdf>.

intergovernmental organizations that made a submission are available online at <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii/23rd-session>.

II. Responses received from United Nations entities and other intergovernmental bodies on measures taken or planned to implement the system-wide action plan

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

5. Throughout 2023, ECLAC continued to carry out actions related to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum, aligned with implementation of the 2030 Agenda and regional frameworks such as the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development;⁵ an intergovernmental agreement that includes a chapter with seven priority measures related to Indigenous Peoples' rights; the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development; and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean⁶ (Escazú Agreement), among others.

6. The following objectives continue to drive the work of ECLAC with regard to Indigenous Peoples: the inclusion of the situation of Indigenous Peoples as a cross-cutting theme in the diverse outputs and activities of the Commission; the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in national statistical systems, in particular the 2020 census, to increase their visibility in national statistics; the production and dissemination of disaggregated data on Indigenous Peoples and training on the use and analysis of that information; the preparation of studies on the situation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as on their living conditions, within the framework of Indigenous Peoples' rights, including policy recommendations; and knowledge-sharing, dissemination and technical assistance provided to countries of the region.

7. The reports and publications of ECLAC are guided by the Declaration. Notable examples released in 2023 include a study entitled "Towards a transformative economic recovery in Latin America-Abya Yala: challenges to guarantee the collective rights of Indigenous People";⁷ a contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of a culture of peace and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace (A/75/233), addressing the increasing statistical visibility of Indigenous Peoples in the region and their role in the fight against climate change; and inputs to the 2023 edition of the Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean on the world of work, examining Indigenous Peoples' economies and the challenges they face in developing their own economies.

8. The promotion and advocacy of the rights of Indigenous Peoples continues to be reinforced in the work of ECLAC, as reflected in position documents, thematic reports, policy briefs, resolutions and intergovernmental agreements of the subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings of ECLAC, in particular in the Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean; the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean; the Statistical Conference of the Americas; the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean. Various

⁵ See <https://repositorio.cepal.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/7b0a9e22-002a-49ec-966e-796a24d468ca/content>.

⁶ See <https://repositorio.cepal.org/items/86cae662-f81c-4b45-a04a-058e8d26143c>.

⁷ Available in Spanish at www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/48792-recuperacion-economica-transformadora-america-latina-abya-yala-desafios.

regional agendas adopted by ECLAC member States in relation to women, social development, population and development, and the environment, among others, include specific measures addressing the situation of Indigenous Peoples in the region.

9. During 2023, technical assistance was carried out through a mix of virtual meetings and in-person field missions, as well as training courses with a focus on Indigenous Peoples and a gender perspective. Lastly, during 2023, ECLAC participated in numerous meetings and side events, contributing substantive presentations and policy recommendations.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

10. The year 2023 marked the first year of implementation for the updated IFAD policy on engagement with Indigenous Peoples,⁸ which was approved in December 2022. The policy guides the work of IFAD with Indigenous Peoples and sets related instruments, procedures and resources.

11. At IFAD, the Forum is the main instrument for policy oversight. It plays a crucial role in advancing the strategic direction setting and resource mobilization efforts of IFAD. In 2023, representatives of the Forum steering committee participated in the Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources and in the Enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme Advisory Committee. At the country level, the role of the Forum is being reinforced by identifying Indigenous focal points to engage with IFAD country teams on relevant issues and investments. The Forum's sixth global meeting, held in February 2023, focused on "Indigenous Peoples' climate leadership: community-based solutions to enhance resilience and biodiversity". Highlights included a presentation of the synthesis of deliberations to the IFAD Governing Council, an audience with Pope Francis and an Indigenous Peoples awards ceremony.

12. In terms of country programmes, almost 40 per cent of the current portfolio of IFAD supports initiatives targeting Indigenous Peoples' communities. There are 85 projects in 45 countries that are expected to reach at least 6 million Indigenous Peoples, with an estimated investment of \$3.5 billion, of which \$1.1 billion is directly financed by IFAD. The Fund is increasingly using free, prior and informed consent as a tool for co-creating investments and country strategies through the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, including the hiring of Indigenous consultants in project design. IFAD is also piloting a monitoring framework collaboratively with Indigenous Peoples' organizations in the ongoing cycle of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility.

13. IFAD is actively mobilizing climate finance and raising awareness among donors and climate funds on Indigenous Peoples' climate leadership. The Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility channels funds directly to Indigenous Peoples under its sixth cycle, focusing on advancing the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change. Projects selected in 2023 cover 42 countries and 53 Indigenous Peoples groups. Running from 2023 to 2026, this cycle is co-financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and IFAD. It is co-managed by Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas, Samburu Women Trust and Tebtebba. Notably, for the first time, this cycle includes funding of the Enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme.

⁸ See www.ifad.org/nl/-/document/ifad-policy-on-engagement-with-indigenous-peoples.

14. With regards to policy engagement and partnerships, IFAD supported Indigenous young people through specific initiatives, such as a video message from the President of the International Fund of Agricultural Development, an interactive story on how Indigenous young people are shaping our world, and a pilot internship programme. The ongoing project on enhancing the capacities of Indigenous young people and women, in collaboration with Slow Food, strengthens local value chains, empowers leaders and supports agroecology. IFAD has joined the Task Force of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, actively participates in the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and has responded to the 2022 recommendation of the Permanent Forum to exclusively use the term "Indigenous Peoples". IFAD contributes to developing indicators for the system-wide action plan through active participation in the Inter-Agency Support Group. IFAD, ILO and UNDP are collaborating on a study of Indigenous Peoples' socioeconomic development.

International Organization for Migration

15. IOM is the leading intergovernmental organization promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It works to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration and to provide humanitarian assistance to people on the move in need, such as international migrants, internal migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons or other uprooted people, as well as vulnerable communities.

16. IOM acknowledges that human mobility – while being a constant and part of the world's economic, social and cultural architecture – is increasingly complex, both affected by and affecting global transformations experienced in the world – from climate change to demographic transition and changes, urbanization or digitalization – and that those trends and dynamics can have specific ramifications and implications for Indigenous Peoples.

17. Indigenous Peoples are involved in several types of migration, including rural-to-rural and rural-to-urban internal migration. Indigenous Peoples who have migrated to cities have often found themselves on the margins of society. Among the many reasons are discrimination, lack of marketable skills for urban life, lack of formal education and language differences. Indigenous Peoples may be involved in cross-border movements, in particular those where the traditional territory is divided by international borders, and can be forced to migrate or be displaced. The displacement of Indigenous Peoples through human activities has resulted from development projects, industrial environmental destruction, armed conflict and governmental policies. Indigenous Peoples are among the most vulnerable groups in the event of a slow or rapid onset disaster, and their vulnerabilities are heightened during situations of displacement. This is owing to their greater dependence on natural resources, the remoteness of some of their territories, exclusion from the rest of society and difficult access to aid. Indigenous Peoples are also affected by migration of non-Indigenous Peoples to Indigenous Peoples' communities or land.

18. Responses to climate change should incorporate vital Indigenous knowledge of land and natural resource management, while protecting health, equity, justice and sustainability. IOM sees it as a priority to aid Indigenous Peoples to stay on their ancestral lands, while seeing the need to complement this with efforts to assist Indigenous Peoples who are on the move or relocated, highlighting that migration should be a choice and not a necessity.

19. IOM is guided by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including to uphold human rights for all. Through its work, IOM contributes to the realization of the provisions of the Declaration, and in particular its articles 1, 2, 6, 7,

10, 17, 18, 21, 23, 25 and 36. IOM remains committed to the System-Wide Action Plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration, and in particular its point 3 on supporting the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

20. At its headquarters and in the field, OHCHR continued to carry out activities to implement the six components of the System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Its work focused on raising awareness of the Declaration, developing the capacities of States, Indigenous Peoples and United Nations country teams, and advancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples in United Nations processes. The effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in intergovernmental United Nations processes was notably ensured through the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Indigenous Peoples. The mandate of the Fund was extended in 2019 also to support the participation of Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous women, young people and persons with disabilities, in United Nations business and human rights and climate change processes. Furthermore, OHCHR followed up on the report entitled "Building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future with Indigenous Peoples" in November 2020 through active involvement in the Inter-Agency Support Group to strengthen coherence, consistency and the impact of the United Nations system's work in support of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

21. Despite Indigenous Peoples being explicitly identified in the 2030 Agenda as a vulnerable group whose needs are reflected in the ambition of the 2030 Agenda and a group that must be empowered (see General Assembly resolution 70/1, para. 23), Indigenous Peoples are often not only left behind in efforts aimed at achieving sustainable development, but they are also among the groups furthest behind. In supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, OHCHR has been working to strengthen workstreams related to the vision of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights launched in September 2023 aimed at reinforcing the work of OHCHR on economic, social and cultural rights, which has implications for marginalized groups, including Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, in April 2023, OHCHR launched the concept of human rights economies, that is, economies that place people's human rights at the centre of all economic, social and environmental policies, plans and programmes. As a means of implementing the human rights economy, OHCHR is implementing projects that place human rights at the centre of socioeconomic policies in countries, including by advocating for economic policy shifts that counter rising inequalities, putting a spotlight on disadvantaged groups, including Indigenous Peoples, and advancing investment in economic, social and cultural rights and in implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

22. Finally, the work of OHCHR is further guided by the thematic reports, studies and recommendations of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which includes a study on Indigenous Peoples and the right to self-determination (2021), of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and of human rights treaty bodies, including Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women general recommendation No. 39 (2022) on the rights of Indigenous women and girls.

International Technological Union

23. Meaningful access for unconnected rural and Indigenous Peoples' communities is not only about digital literacy, coverage or device distribution. It requires a design of strategies and projects in which remote and Indigenous communities are directly involved in the management, maintenance and sustainability of those information and communications technology (ICT) networks and projects.

24. Therefore, the work of ITU with and for Indigenous Peoples and their communities has evolved into a comprehensive capacity-building programme that emphasizes educational and socioeconomic empowerment through entrepreneurship and digital inclusion processes, spearheaded by Indigenous leaders and communicators, with a special focus on women and young people.

25. In line with ITU resolutions 11 and 46, adopted at the 2022 World Telecommunication Development Conference,⁹ two processes continued in the Americas region in 2023 for capacity-building and the development of digital entrepreneurship among young people and people from Indigenous and rural communities.

26. In 2023, the fourth edition of the training programme for managers in ICT networks for Indigenous and rural communities in Latin America was held. This saw over 80 community ICT network managers graduate, each making a direct positive influence in their regions by initiating or enhancing community communication and connectivity endeavours. Given the significant success of the programme, efforts are now under way to introduce similar initiatives in Asia and Africa. This was further acknowledged at the 2023 meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, where member countries endorsed and supported its replication in Africa.

27. In addition, since December 2021, there has been an ongoing capacity-building initiative for the young Indigenous Peoples of Gran Chaco Americano, spanning Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Paraguay. The aim is to foster digital entrepreneurship. Thus far, over 30 workshops focusing on foundational and advanced ICT skills have been conducted, benefiting around 500 young people. This training is further enriched with a dedicated forum and a comprehensive assessment focused on Indigenous young people and their digital entrepreneurial activities.

World Food Programme

28. WFP continues to expand its Indigenous Peoples portfolio and commitment to Indigenous Peoples through cross-cutting activities, assessments and projects across the regions, focused on food security, improved livelihoods and nutrition. Through its assessments, WFP identifies the drivers of food insecurity and the barriers to inclusion. The findings from the evidence-based assessments inform WFP approaches and country strategic plans and are helping create pathways to improved engagement with Indigenous Peoples.

29. The Latin America and Caribbean Regional Bureau and the Asia and the Pacific Regional Bureau have solidified their commitment to working with Indigenous Peoples through partnerships with Indigenous Peoples organizations, and have secured funding to sensitize and strengthen staff capacity. Those efforts have led to the design of a position paper to be launched in December 2023. Projects range from economic empowerment of Indigenous women in Guatemala and capacity strengthening of smallholder farmers in Ecuador to climate change adaptation

⁹ See www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/Pages/default.aspx.

practices in Indigenous and Afrodescendant communities on the border between Ecuador and Colombia. In the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, country offices continue to advance their work with Indigenous and tribal peoples in Cambodia, India, Myanmar and the Philippines. The creation of an inclusion committee in Cambodia will contribute to the strategic development of the country office's work to address Indigenous Peoples, among others. In Myanmar, the country office continues to strengthen its ties with Indigenous Peoples in the Nagaland, tailoring assistance to cultural practices and preferences in alignment with free, prior and informed consent processes.

30. WFP continues to build new tools and guidance for its staff members to improve data collection and overall engagement with Indigenous Peoples. The issuance of focus group discussion guidelines and a collection of country office experiences with free, prior and informed consent, as well as a case study collection, contribute to the organization's internal capacity strengthening.

31. As an active member of the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, the Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples and the Inter-Agency Support Group, WFP engages in regular exchange and dialogue with the United Nations family to ensure the integration of Indigenous Peoples across all mandates.

World Intellectual Property Organization

32. In 2022 and 2023, the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore continued its negotiations aimed at finalizing international legal instruments to ensure the balanced and effective protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions and will continue to do so in 2024 and 2025, with the participation of Indigenous Peoples as observers.

33. The 2022, the WIPO General Assembly decided to convene in 2024 a diplomatic conference on intellectual property, genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with generic resources.¹⁰ The Intergovernmental Committee met in a special session in September 2023 in preparation for the conference and agreed on several revisions to the substantive articles of the draft text. The special session was followed by the preparatory committee of the conference. The meeting of the preparatory committee in September was adjourned, to be reconvened at a future date to consider the draft agenda and the dates and venue of the conference.

34. Contributions to the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities to support the participation of Indigenous Peoples as observers were made by Germany in 2022 and by Australia, Mexico and anonymous contributors in 2023.

35. In 2023, the WIPO General Assembly decided that WIPO would provide funding through the Voluntary Fund to facilitate the participation in the diplomatic conference of two representatives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities from each sociocultural region used by the Permanent Forum and, in case of insufficient resources, through the budget allocated to the conference.

36. An Indigenous expert workshop on intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions was organized. As an outcome, a report by the Indigenous experts was published.¹¹

¹⁰ See www.wipo.int/diplomatic-conferences/en/genetic-resources/.

¹¹ See www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=613852.

37. Regarding Indigenous young people, three young photographers received awards at an awards ceremony that concluded the 2023 WIPO Photography Prize for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Youth.

38. The WIPO secretariat has taken due account of and is doing its best to implement the 2022 recommendation of the Permanent Forum made in paragraph 85 of its report, both on the WIPO website and in the new publications of WIPO.

39. References to the Declaration have been included in the most recent versions of the draft negotiating texts on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as in the basic proposal for the 2024 diplomatic conference. To promote article 31 of the Declaration, WIPO provides training, mentoring opportunities and information that aim to enable Indigenous Peoples to make more effective use of intellectual property principles and tools, if they so wish, in support of their traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions-based community entrepreneurship, with a particular emphasis on women. In parallel, WIPO conducts normative work on intellectual property, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions. WIPO training activities addressing Indigenous Peoples' needs regarding the protection of their traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions contribute to the fulfilment of the commitments made vis-à-vis Indigenous Peoples within the Sustainable Development Goals framework, and of Goals 3, 4, 8, 11 and 13, among others.

40. Most WIPO training material, as well as a repository of relevant laws, in relation to the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions from an intellectual property perspective is available on the WIPO website. In 2023, WIPO organized a high-level dialogue on Indigenous Peoples, traditional cultural expressions and fashion. Indigenous Peoples' representatives in the Intergovernmental Committee benefit from measures to enhance their effective participation as observers. The preparatory committee of the 2024 diplomatic conference approved, inter alia, the list of invitees, including Indigenous observers.

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

41. In all aspects of its work, UNAIDS elevates the voices of communities of people living with HIV, key populations and other priority populations, including Indigenous Peoples. UNAIDS promotes the leadership of communities for people-centred, rights-based and gender transformative HIV responses and the integration of community-led responses in national and global forums and plans.

42. At the global level, UNAIDS has worked with Indigenous Peoples' networks to increase the visibility of the inequalities that Indigenous Peoples' face, many of which are the same as those that drive the HIV epidemic – racism, poverty, discrimination, marginalization, lack of access to services and lack of legal recognition. During the thematic segment of the meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, held in June 2023, the diversity and intersections of Indigenous Peoples with key HIV populations, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities, and good practices of work in expanding HIV services and addressing stigma, discrimination and violence against two-spirit¹² Indigenous young people were discussed and shared with Board members. UNAIDS has also co-organized and/or participated in important international events in partnership with Indigenous Peoples networks, including the ninth International Indigenous Pre-conference on HIV and

¹² “Two-spirit” is a term used by some Indigenous Peoples to describe their sexual, gender and/or spiritual identity. It refers to a person who identifies as having both a masculine and a feminine spirit.

AIDS,¹³ a side event on the global response to HIV, hepatitis C and tuberculosis,¹⁴ and a side event on Indigenous-led and evidence-based responses.¹⁵

43. Throughout the Latin America and Caribbean region, UNAIDS works to achieve the recognition of HIV prevention and care needs in ways that are respectful of Indigenous Peoples' autonomy, that are culturally appropriate and that recognize ancestral knowledge about well-being and health, working towards promoting an effective combination of prevention approaches that address structural barriers and inequalities, such as racism, colonialism and gender inequalities directed towards but also within and between Indigenous communities.

44. UNAIDS has been working, for example, on the establishment and development of community-led regional initiatives focused on achieving health equity and improved HIV outcomes in Indigenous communities, including facilitating the launch of an Indigenous coalition to address HIV in Indigenous Peoples' communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

45. To close data gaps, UNAIDS has advocated for ethnicity variables and Indigenous status to be incorporated into existing and future epidemiological studies throughout the region. Finally, UNAIDS has also advocated with donors to allocate resources to research that demonstrates the unequal impact of HIV on some Indigenous Peoples in the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

46. During the period under review, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs remained engaged with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and its secretariat, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Regular exchanges with the Permanent Forum have been instrumental in promoting the political rights of Indigenous Peoples and the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the political efforts of the United Nations. Regular exchanges with the Permanent Forum, as well as with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, have enhanced analysis by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of conflict trends involving Indigenous Peoples and have strengthened the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in all efforts of the United Nations to support political dialogue and mediation and build sustainable peace.

47. The work of the Department on the promotion of the political rights of Indigenous Peoples included electoral issues. The United Nations provides electoral assistance upon request from a Member State, or by way of a resolution of the Security Council or General Assembly. In conducting electoral needs assessment missions, the Department regularly assesses the challenges and needs of Indigenous Peoples and their political participation. United Nations assistance, where appropriate and requested, is tailored to those needs. In Guatemala, the United Nations electoral project for the period 2022–2024 supports the promotion of electoral participation by

¹³ Organized by the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV & AIDS in Montreal, Canada, from 26 to 28 July 2022.

¹⁴ "One Vision, Many Paths: the Need for Coordinated, Urgent Global Action to Address the InterConnected Crises of HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Tuberculosis in Indigenous Communities", co-organized by UNAIDS with CAAN Communities, Alliances and Networks and the Pan America Health Organization (PAHO), in the margins of the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UNAIDS Office in New York, 18 April 2023.

¹⁵ Pathways to Indigenous-led, evidence-based responses: Coordinated, urgent global action to address the interconnected crises of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C and tuberculosis in Indigenous communities, in the margins of the sixteenth session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 17–21 July 2023 (Geneva).

Indigenous Peoples through voter education, targeted and innovative public outreach strategies, as well as activities aimed at the prevention of political/electoral violence, including against Indigenous Peoples. In other examples, United Nations electoral assistance projects support efforts to ensure inclusive electoral processes by promoting the political participation of Indigenous Peoples in Ecuador (2023–2025). During the needs assessment mission in Suriname, from 30 October to 3 November 2023, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs-UNDP team met with Indigenous and tribal peoples representatives to incorporate their perspectives in its recommendations.

48. The work of the Department contributed to the implementation of the System-Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples, especially by supporting national actors, including from civil society, in advancing the rights, inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples in political and peacebuilding processes. The Peacebuilding Fund¹⁶ works with local communities and civil society organizations, as well as the United Nations system, to support peacebuilding at the local and national levels. In some countries, the Fund supports initiatives specifically designed to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples.

Development Coordination Office

49. The Development Coordination Office is continuously raising awareness of all resident coordinator offices on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the commitments contained in the system-wide action plan, through strategic messages on the International Day of Indigenous Peoples, the issuance of policy bulletins, including relevant knowledge products, and the 2022 recommendation of the Permanent Forum.

50. In 2022, the Office convened various dialogues and clinics with resident coordinators on issues relating to Indigenous Peoples, focusing on different themes, specifically Indigenous knowledge, participation in development and human rights defenders. Key resources on the rights and issues of Indigenous Peoples, including standards to guidance tools, are included in the compendium for the resident coordinators leadership onboarding package.

51. The Office, as manager of UN-Info, is improving the quality assurance and data analytics on the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples (as stakeholders consulted and in specific result areas) in the Cooperation Framework processes, and the support provided for their participation in national development processes.

52. As manager of the Sustainable Development Goals knowledge portal resources, the Office promotes the compilation and sharing of good practices on pages relating to Indigenous Peoples and to leaving no one behind. Aside from the thematic brief on Indigenous Peoples in sustainable development, which highlighted resident coordinator leadership and collaboration with United Nations country teams on the human rights dimensions of Indigenous Peoples issues, other notable examples of good practices on the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the results of the Cooperation Framework and joint workplans include: in Nepal, the partnership with the national Indigenous women's commission; in Kazakhstan, technical assistance on capacities mapping of Indigenous women's rights organizations in the region; in Chile, the focus on economic empowerment of Indigenous women; in Cambodia, support for communal land titling; and in South Africa, support for Indigenous Peoples and climate change-proofing of natural resources management.

¹⁶ See www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/fund.

United Nations Development Programme

53. During its 2022 session, the Permanent Forum requested the collaboration of ILO, IFAD and UNDP to prepare a study on the implementation of socioeconomic development programmes and creative industries for Indigenous Peoples. Together with ILO, IFAD and WIPO, UNDP is preparing a joint response in the form of a report that will feature a set of case studies and good practices in support of Indigenous entrepreneurship, livelihoods and creative industries. The agencies will present the report at the twenty-third session of the Permanent Forum, in 2024, in the context of green jobs, climate action and the just energy transition.

54. As recognized by the theme of the Permanent Forum in 2023, Indigenous young people around the world are key to unlocking a sustainable future for their peoples and territories. Indigenous young people are mobilizing on issues that gravely affect their communities and the environment, such as land degradation, displacement and climate change. Under the aegis of the UNDP youth empowerment portfolio in Asia and the Pacific, the youth empowerment in climate action platform and Youth Co:Lab organized a series of activities in 2023 to showcase the invaluable contributions of Indigenous young people as agents of change for self-determination, in tackling climate challenges and promoting social entrepreneurship.

55. The United Nations Water Conference was held in New York in March 2023, bringing together Governments, civil society and stakeholders towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6 and other water-related goals and targets, compiled in the “Water Action Agenda”. During the Conference, a set of multi-stakeholder coalitions were announced, with new commitments and pledges. In that context, an official side event, entitled “Indigenous Peoples and water: joint commitments to transforming water governance, climate adaptation and biodiversity”, was held on 23 March 2023. Led by UNESCO, with support from UNDP, the side event convened an inter-agency task force that included FAO, IFAD, ILO, OHCHR, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNEP, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, WHO and WFP. The event was co-sponsored by the Governments of Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Canada, Chile and Mexico, with additional support provided by the Stockholm International Water Institute and the Pawanka Fund.

56. Responding to the in-depth dialogue held during the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum, held in April 2023, between its members, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, UNDP reaffirms the need for a coordinated approach, harmonized workplan and indicators and joint actions across the United Nations system on the implementation of the System-Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples. In that context, UNDP helped to convene a workshop on options for the preparation of a policy marker system for Indigenous Peoples, organized with the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris on 6 and 7 Nov 2023. The workshop report and its recommendations will be presented during the twenty-third session of the Permanent Forum, to be held in April 2024. UNDP welcomes the offer from the three mechanisms (the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Chairs of the Permanent Forum and the Expert Mechanism) to continue to assist United Nations bodies with the objective of recognizing, respecting and promoting the realization of the distinct individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

57. UNESCO has a policy on engaging with Indigenous Peoples¹⁷ that aligns with the Declaration. In 2022, UNESCO entered a new eight-year medium-term strategy in which Indigenous Peoples feature prominently as partners, knowledge holders and custodians of languages and culture. UNESCO works to mainstream Indigenous Peoples' issues into each of its mandates, notably in education, culture, natural sciences, social and human sciences, communications and information and in oceanography. UNESCO is engaged to ensure that recommendations from the Permanent Forum are studied and acted on, and that Indigenous Peoples are key partners in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. UNESCO contributed to advancing the rights of Indigenous Peoples within the 2030 Agenda, including Goals 4, 6, 13, 14, and 15.

58. UNESCO is the lead Agency for the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, works to enable the functioning of the Global Task Force for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages and supports all initiatives to elaborate national action plans for the Decade. A multilingual education working group mapped language policies in 46 Asia-Pacific countries, revealing challenges in implementing first language-based multilingual education. Regarding free, prior and informed consent, UNESCO supported Indigenous-led research in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. UNESCO, in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, addressed various urgent topics, including cultural heritage, climate change, language revitalization, the digital divide and access to media.

59. UNESCO actively supports the self-determination of Indigenous young people, addressing global challenges like biodiversity loss and climate change. Initiatives include preserving Indigenous knowledge in and near UNESCO designated sites and promoting inclusive digital education for Indigenous learners. Collaboration with Indigenous organizations focuses on studying national policies for Indigenous media. UNESCO co-published an illustrated book on languages for young people, highlighting Indigenous language preservation. Efforts to ensure Indigenous Peoples' participation in international decades involved task forces, celebrations, consultations and support for women's forums. The UNESCO Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems programme facilitates Indigenous engagement in the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Water Action Decade and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. In 2023, UNESCO was made the lead agency for the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development, in which Indigenous knowledge will feature as one of the cornerstones.

60. In 2023, UNESCO worked to revise the Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development,¹⁸ with a specific focus on Indigenous Peoples and their languages. Multiple countries have aligned their educational programmes with UNESCO Framework Education for Sustainable Development by 2030. UNESCO also launched an initiative to address the vulnerability of Indigenous Peoples' right to education in the face of adverse effects from climate change.

61. Experts from Indigenous communities have actively contributed to the UNESCO framework for culture and arts education,¹⁹ emphasizing the inclusion of Indigenous languages and cultural heritage. UNESCO has promoted guidelines highlighting the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including free, prior and informed

¹⁷ See www.unesco.org/en/indigenous-peoples/policy.

¹⁸ See www.unesco.org/en/legal-affairs/recommendation-concerning-education-international-understanding-co-operation-and-peace-and-education.

¹⁹ See www.unesco.org/en/frameworkcultureartseducation.

consent, within the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. The Organization has pursued various thematic initiatives related to intangible cultural heritage and Indigenous participation, along with discussions on the return and restitution of cultural property.

United Nations Environment Programme

62. UNEP is the leading global authority on the environment. Its mission is to inspire, inform and enable nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. Civil society engagement within UNEP, including that of Indigenous Peoples, is guided by the Major Groups and Stakeholders modality, as outlined in Agenda 21. UNEP recognizes the importance of Indigenous Peoples' participation, as well as the valuable inputs that holders of Indigenous knowledge can contribute to sustainable ecosystem management and development. Engagement of Indigenous Peoples in the work and processes of UNEP is organized through the Indigenous Peoples Major Group²⁰ to which 19 organizations are accredited. In addition, an Indigenous Peoples focal point strives to protect and promote Indigenous Peoples' rights and participation and perspectives across the organization. A new focal point with a reinforced mandate is anticipated for the first quarter of 2024.

63. Through the Indigenous Peoples Major Group, Indigenous Peoples representatives are invited and encouraged to participate in the United Nations Environment Assembly and other intergovernmental processes emanating from the Assembly, as well as in UNEP special meetings and other UNEP processes. Indigenous Peoples representatives are sponsored to attend the meetings as observers and can contribute with written and oral statements before and during the meetings. In addition, during the intergovernmental consultations on nature-based solutions, which took place in Nairobi in October 2023, a special meeting was arranged between Major Groups and stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples, and the Chair of the consultations. This is anticipated also for the second open-ended working group on a science-policy panel on the sound management of waste and chemicals, to be held in Nairobi in December 2023. The fifth Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, held in Geneva from 30 October to 3 November 2023, paved a way forward to meaningfully engage with Indigenous Peoples in the implementation of projects and programmes undertaken under the Minamata Convention. Furthermore, for the first time, the seventh Global Environmental Outlook report²¹ incorporates Indigenous knowledge in the upcoming assessment through four rounds of dialogues with Indigenous Peoples, all planned in the first quarter of 2024.

64. The UNEP Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework includes safeguard standards on Indigenous Peoples to ensure the realization of the Declaration and other international instruments. Through the Framework and its application, UNEP ensures the protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the development and implementation of all UNEP-supported programmes and projects.

65. Finally, UNEP strives to support the implementation of the Declaration, in particular in the context of environmental protection. In the past year, UNEP has developed numerous reports and publications to raise awareness of Indigenous Peoples' rights. The second edition of the Environmental Rule of Law Report,²²

²⁰ See www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/major-groups-modalities/major-group-categories/indigenous-peoples-and.

²¹ See www.unep.org/geo/global-environment-outlook-7.

²² See www.unep.org/resources/publication/environmental-rule-law-tracking-progress-and-charting-future-directions.

published in November 2023, aims to strengthen the enforcement of the environmental rule of law to empower right holders in their efforts to safeguard the planet. The report includes references to Indigenous Peoples and meaningful ways in which States can enhance participation of Indigenous Peoples in environmental decision-making.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

66. In 2023, the global collaborative efforts between FAO, the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and various stakeholders significantly advanced the cause of Indigenous Peoples and their pivotal role in addressing the triple crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and food security.

67. This pivotal year witnessed key events and initiatives, emphasizing the importance of Indigenous Peoples' Food and Knowledge systems, with a particular emphasis on the role of Indigenous young people, in the broader context of food security and environmental sustainability.

68. The linkage between FAO and Indigenous Peoples was notably strengthened through a historic bilateral meeting between the FAO Director-General and the Chair of the Permanent Forum. The discussion marked a turning point in recognizing Indigenous Peoples as crucial allies, acknowledging the significance of Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems.

69. In March, the Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems²³ convened its first in-person meeting after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. With over 80 participants from diverse regions and organizations, the gathering laid the groundwork for impactful collaborations. The outcomes of the meeting not only increased the Hub's membership to 31 organizations, but also prompted an increase in requests from academic, research and Indigenous organizations to join the collective efforts. This collaborative spirit, extended to the formation of five drafting committees and three working groups, contributing to the drafting and finalization of two Wiphala papers²⁴ and the editing of the standards of practice on ecosystem restoration. This concerted effort showcased the dedication of diverse stakeholders to advancing Indigenous Peoples' causes.

70. At the strategic level, the Hub played a crucial role in supporting the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems²⁵ by providing technical backstopping. This collaboration strengthened the Coalition's work and addressed requests from countries and Indigenous Peoples' organizations. In fact, the Coalition, initiated in 2021, gained momentum in 2023 with the addition of five new countries. Expanding to 12 countries (Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Dominican Republic, Finland, Spain, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Lesotho and Panama), six United Nations organizations and several Indigenous Peoples' organizations, the Coalition drafted a comprehensive workplan set for implementation in 2024. The Coalition succeeded in having Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems included in the programme of work of the World Committee on Food Security.

71. Simultaneously, the Group of Friends on Indigenous Peoples,²⁶ chaired by Mexico and consisting of 42 FAO member States, regularly convenes to discuss Indigenous Peoples' issues.

²³ See www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/global-hub/ru/.

²⁴ See www.fao.org/3/cb4932en/cb4932en.pdf.

²⁵ See www.unfoodsystemshub.org/food-systems-coalitions/indigenous-peoples'-food-systems-coalition/en.

²⁶ See www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/rome-group-of-friends-of-indigenous-peoples/en/.

72. The Indigenous Peoples' biocentric restoration integrates Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems to champion biodiversity conservation. The ongoing projects in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Paraguay, Peru and Thailand further demonstrate the importance of putting Indigenous Peoples' cosmogony at the centre, combining nature, ecosystems and biodiversity with beliefs. This initiative reflects a commitment to move from knowledge-evidence into policy action, ensuring tangible changes that could align with the urgent needs posed by the current environmental crisis.

73. The Global Indigenous Youth Forum, organized by FAO on a biennial basis following the recommendation of the Permanent Forum in 2019,²⁷ brought together 186 Indigenous young people from the seven sociocultural regions. The Forum served as a crucial platform for interaction with different stakeholders and showcased the commitment to empower the voices of Indigenous young people. The resulting Rome Declaration on Safeguarding Future Generations in times of Food, Social, and Ecological Crisis²⁸ was read at a side-event of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and pre-shared during the session of the World Committee on Food Security in October 2023, demonstrating the tangible outcomes of the Forum.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

74. In 2023, UN-Habitat focused on empowering Indigenous Peoples, specifically on young people, by ensuring their participation in official United Nations events and hosting events promoting the voices of Indigenous young people. Programmatic platforms for the empowerment of Indigenous young people at the local level include the Youth 2030 Cities Programme, for example through "one stop youth centres".

75. At field level, UN-Habitat has worked with Indigenous Peoples and local and national authorities to promote Indigenous land rights.

76. In the context of localizing the Sustainable Development Goals, UN-Habitat has continued to develop and promote voluntary local review frameworks and tools that ensure the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in local reviews and track the implementation of their rights.

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

77. In the context of Human Rights Day, UN-Women organized a special day of reflection on Indigenous women to raise awareness on the Declaration, as well as the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women general recommendation No. 39 (2022) on the rights of Indigenous women and girls.

78. In 2022, Brazil went through a cycle of review before the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The United Nations country team and networks of Brazilian women of African descent and Indigenous women engaged directly with the Committee, highlighting the intersectional impacts of gender, race and ethnic-based discrimination. For some, this was the first time they had addressed their concerns and priorities to the Committee. The country team in Brazil strengthened its commitment and capacity through a report (forthcoming in 2024) that includes data and analysis on racialized groups in Brazil, drafted by the inter-agency group on

²⁷ See E/2019/43, para. 90.

²⁸ See https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_tUBp8Igif4pdxIjenqjO7ZD94t5zua4/view.

gender, race and ethnicity, chaired by UN-Women, in a joint effort led by OHCHR and UN-Women.

79. In the Philippines, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and non-Moro Indigenous women have been historically marginalized and devalued, not only by the majority Moro population, who encroach at the ancestral land that the women depend their lives on, but also by male members of their community who disregard women in decision-making on issues that relate to conflict resolution, land-use and community leadership in a context where they are living in areas severely affected by armed conflict and climate change. With UN-Women mobilizing the Non-Moro Indigenous women from seven ethnic tribes, a policy agenda was developed to inform the Bangsamoro Indigenous Peoples Code, which is seen as a critical law to address the vulnerabilities, inequities and historical grievances of Indigenous communities, and where women have rallied to push for more meaningful engagement in shaping the law.

80. UN-Women is currently updating its strategy on inclusion and visibility of Indigenous women through a mapping of its existing resources, with a view to integrating general recommendation No. 39 into programming.

81. In Cameroon, over 500 Indigenous Peoples from the Baka Community were sensitized against the stigmatization, prevention and management of HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence through a film projection. In addition, 400 Mbororo women have been empowered as peer educators. As way forward, UN-Women will engage Indigenous men to facilitate the participation of Indigenous women in actions to empower women.

82. In Guatemala, UN-Women supported the capacity development of 37 Indigenous women and young people in leadership and civic-political participation, through training towards receiving a diploma on strengthening leadership of young Indigenous women with an emphasis on training and civic-political participation.

83. The UN-Women regional office for the Americas and the Caribbean facilitated the only in-person regional consultation on general recommendation No. 39, which convened 58 Indigenous women from 20 countries (Argentina, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) and belonging to 33 Indigenous Peoples, who contributed concrete proposals to improve and adapt the general recommendation to their needs and demands.

84. General recommendation No. 39 includes crucial inputs from several Governments and Indigenous women's groups from across the Americas and the Caribbean. It addresses such aspects as individual and collective rights; free, prior and informed consent; climate change adaptation and mitigation; economic empowerment and their insertion in the digital economy; and the right to a life free of violence.

World Health Organization

85. Member States participating at the seventy-sixth session of the World Health Assembly adopted its resolution 76.16 on the health of Indigenous Peoples.²⁹ The resolution represents the first time the Assembly has addressed the health disparities faced by Indigenous Peoples globally. The resolution includes specific calls to Member States, relevant actors and the WHO Director-General, emphasizing

²⁹ See https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA76/A76_R16-en.pdf.

consultation with Indigenous Peoples and their free, prior and informed consent. Notably, it mandates the development of a global plan of action for the health of Indigenous Peoples, set to be presented to the World Health Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, in 2026.

86. WHO spearheads the implementation of resolution 76.16 and is committed to applying a human rights-based approach, ensuring a meaningful consultative process with Indigenous Peoples at every stage of the development of the Global Plan of Action. This commitment aims to incorporate Indigenous Peoples' perspectives and cosmovision from the outset.

87. Since the adoption of the resolution, the secretariat of WHO has initiated the production of a global situation analysis on the health of Indigenous Peoples for the Global Plan of Action, and a dedicated web page to communicate progress is to be set up. As of November 2023, a consultative mechanism was being designed to engage Indigenous Peoples in the process to develop the Global Plan of Action.

88. In alignment with its commitment to scale up efforts for the advancement of Indigenous Peoples' health globally and to support collective initiatives promoting Indigenous Peoples' rights, and the implementation of the system-wide action plan, WHO will serve as the Co-Chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group in 2024. In that capacity, WHO aims to advance collectively the health agenda for Indigenous Peoples.

89. In the realm of health, well-being and planetary health, WHO takes an active stance in promoting the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples. Those perspectives serve as fundamental pillars in the efforts of WHO to address the triple planetary crisis encompassing biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution. WHO supports the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in shaping and implementing holistic, multi-stakeholder approaches to health and sustainable development. This commitment is evidenced in a range of activities, including consultations, capacity-building workshops, webinars, the establishment of strategic partnerships and active participation in global United Nations processes, such as Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, among others. The dedication of WHO extends further to include the collaborative co-design and publication of reports that address Indigenous health, traditional knowledge and traditional medicine. Furthermore, WHO places a strong emphasis on ensuring that the voices of young people, including Indigenous young people, are integrated in the co-development of inclusive, equitable and sustainable planetary health solutions.

90. The first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit, entitled "Towards health and well-being for all" also promoted the participation of Indigenous Peoples. The outcome of the Summit was marked by the Gujarat Declaration,³⁰ formulated with the participation of Indigenous Peoples, and endorsed a series of recommendations, encompassing key considerations on the integration of biodiversity and sustainability, as well as the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights.

³⁰ See www.who.int/publications/m/item/who-traditional-medicine-summit-2023-meeting-gujarat-declaration.