



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Third session

12–16 July 2010

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Note by the Secretariat*

Addendum

* Late submission.

1. Following the adoption of its resolutions 5/1 and 6/16, and in compliance with General Assembly resolution 60/251, the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 6/36, established the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as an advisory body to the Council. In accordance with Council resolution 6/36, the Expert Mechanism held its first and second annual sessions in 2008 and in 2009. The Expert Mechanism submitted the reports on these sessions to the Council at the tenth and twelfth sessions (A/HRC/10/56, A/HRC/12/32).
2. In accordance with its resolution 9/7, the Council requested the Expert Mechanism to undertake a study on lessons learned and challenges to achieve the implementation of the right of indigenous peoples to education. The study, which includes Expert Mechanism Advice No. 1 (2009) on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to Education, was submitted to the Council at its twelfth session (A/HRC/12/33).
3. At its twelfth session, the Council, in its resolution 12/13, requested the Expert Mechanism to carry out a study on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making and to present a progress report to the Council at its fifteenth session, and a final study to the Council at its eighteenth session.

Item 1. Election of officers

4. Pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, the Council applies the rules of procedure established for committees of the General Assembly, as applicable, unless subsequently otherwise decided by the Assembly or the Council (A/520/Rev.15). On the election of officers, rule 103 of the rules of procedure states that each committee elects a Chairperson, one or more Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. The Expert Mechanism will have before it the provisional agenda of its third session (A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/1) and the present annotations relating to the items included in the provisional agenda. The Expert Mechanism will adopt the agenda, including any revisions it might wish to make.

Organization of work

6. In its resolution 6/36, the Council decided that the Expert Mechanism should meet once annually, for three days in its first year and thereafter for up to five days, and that the sessions may be a combination of open and private meetings. For its third session, the Expert Mechanism will meet for five days, from 12 to 16 July 2010.
7. Rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that each committee should, at the beginning of the session, adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item. Accordingly, the Expert Mechanism will have before it for consideration and approval a draft timetable prepared by the Secretariat showing the order and distribution of meeting times for each agenda item of its programme of work for the third session.

Item 3. Study on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making

8. Pursuant to Council resolution 12/13, the Expert Mechanism is undertaking a study on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making. In order to contribute to the elaboration of the progress report on the study, to be submitted to the Council at its fifteenth session, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in accordance with Council resolution 6/36 and following the practice of the first study, sent out a call for written submissions on the topic of the study and organized a two-day technical workshop on the right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making, which was held in Geneva on 23 and 24 March 2010 (A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/4). OHCHR also submitted a contribution to the study (A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/3).

9. The agenda item will provide an opportunity for comments and suggestions on the draft progress report (A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/2). The Expert Mechanism will subsequently complete the final version of the progress report and submit it to the Council at its fifteenth session.

Item 4. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

10. In its resolution 6/36, the Council recalled that, at its sixty-first session, the General Assembly adopted, in its resolution 61/295, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In its report on its first session, the Expert Mechanism stressed that the Declaration was a key human rights instrument on the rights of indigenous peoples and constituted a part of the framework for the work of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/10/56).

11. The agenda item will provide an opportunity for a general discussion on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The general discussion will focus on the use of the Declaration to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

Item 5. Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval

12. As stated by the Council in its resolution 6/36, the Expert Mechanism may make proposals to the Council for its consideration and approval, within the scope of its work as set out by the Council. This may include proposals on how its thematic expertise could assist the Council in the implementation of its mandate and mechanisms.

Item 6. Adoption of the report

13. The Expert Mechanism will adopt its report on the third session for submission to the Council.
