



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council

Twenty-seventh session

Agenda item 3

Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council

27/13

Human rights and indigenous peoples

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling all Commission on Human Rights and Human Rights Council resolutions on human rights and indigenous peoples,

Bearing in mind that the General Assembly, in its resolution 59/174 of 20 December 2004, proclaimed the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in its resolution 61/295 on 13 September 2007,

Welcoming the forthcoming thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples in 2015, and acknowledging the decades of its substantive work to facilitate the direct and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples within the United Nations, the Human Rights Council and the human rights treaty bodies, also in the light of this important anniversary,

Recognizing the importance to indigenous peoples of revitalizing, using, developing and transmitting their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures to future generations, and designating and retaining their own names for communities, places and persons,

Welcoming the completion of the studies by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples: restorative justice, indigenous juridical systems and access to justice for indigenous women, children and persons with disabilities¹ and on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples in disaster risk reduction, prevention and

¹ A/HRC/27/65.



preparedness initiatives² submitted to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session, and encouraging all parties to consider the examples of good practices and recommendations included in these studies as practical advice on how to attain the end goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Stressing the need to pay particular attention to the rights and special needs of indigenous women, children, youth and persons with disabilities, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Recognizing the need to find ways and means of promoting the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions within the United Nations system on issues affecting them, as they are not always organized as non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing also the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption by the International Labour Organization of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and its contribution to the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of indigenous peoples,³ and requests the High Commissioner to continue to submit to the Human Rights Council an annual report on the rights of indigenous peoples containing information on relevant developments in human rights bodies and mechanisms and activities undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner at headquarters and in the field that contribute to the promotion of, respect for and the full application of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and follow-up on the effectiveness of the Declaration;

2. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, including the official visits made and her reports, and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to her requests for visits;

3. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report on the implementation of her mandate to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, takes note with appreciation of the report on its seventh session,⁴ and encourages States to continue to participate in and contribute to its discussions, including by their national specialized bodies and institutions;

5. *Requests* the Expert Mechanism to prepare a study on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples with respect to their cultural heritage, including through their participation in political and public life, and to present it to the Human Rights Council at its thirtieth session;

6. *Also requests* the Expert Mechanism to continue to undertake, with the assistance of the Office of the High Commissioner, the questionnaire survey to seek the views of States and indigenous peoples on best practices regarding possible appropriate measures and implementation strategies in order to attain the end goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with a view to completing a final summary of responses for presentation to the Human Rights Council at its thirtieth session, and encourages States and indigenous peoples that have not yet provided their responses to do so, as well as those States and indigenous peoples that have already responded to the questionnaire survey to update their responses as appropriate;

² A/HRC/27/66.

³ A/HRC/27/30.

⁴ A/HRC/27/65.

7. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolutions 65/198 of 21 December 2010 and 66/296 of 17 September 2012 on the organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014, and takes note of the preparatory process, including the meetings that took place in Tiquipaya, Cochabamba, Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Chiang Mai, Thailand, as well as the previous meetings in Alta, Norway, and in Guatemala City;

8. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of promoting participation in the United Nations of indigenous peoples' representatives on the issues affecting them,⁵ and invites the Secretary-General, taking into account the views expressed by indigenous peoples, to present options, including recommendations regarding concrete proposals, to the General Assembly at its seventieth session in this regard;

9. *Decides* to hold, at its thirtieth session, a half-day panel discussion on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and its implications for the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

10. *Welcomes* the ongoing cooperation and coordination among the Special Rapporteur, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Expert Mechanism, and their permanent effort to promote the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, including the follow-up to the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples, and invites them to continue to work in close cooperation with all Human Rights Council mechanisms, within their respective mandates;

11. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations treaty bodies are important mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and encourages States to give serious consideration to their recommendations regarding indigenous peoples;

12. *Welcomes* the contribution of the universal periodic review to the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples, and encourages the effective follow-up to accepted universal periodic review recommendations concerning indigenous peoples;

13. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization or that have not yet supported the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to consider doing so;

14. *Welcomes* the increased support by States for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the commemoration of the seventh anniversary of its adoption, and encourages States that have endorsed it to adopt measures to pursue its objectives in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples;

15. *Encourages* States to give due consideration to all the rights of indigenous peoples in the process of the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and to take measures to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples, and in particular indigenous youth, in national processes for the implementation of the new development goals;

16. *Welcomes* the role of national human rights institutions established in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) in advancing indigenous issues, and encourages such institutions to develop and strengthen their capacities to fulfil that role effectively, including with the support of the Office of the High Commissioner;

⁵ A/HRC/21/24.

17. *Takes note* of the activity of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, and invites States and other potential donors to support it;

18. *Invites* States and other public or private actors or institutions to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples as an important means of promoting the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide and within the United Nations system;

19. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at a future session in conformity with its annual programme of work.

*39th meeting
25 September 2014*

[Adopted without a vote.]
