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Human Rights Council
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Twelfth session
15–19 July 2019
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda¹

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, the Human Rights 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 (see A/520/Rev.17). Regarding the election of officers, rule 103 of the rules of procedure

¹ On 15 July 2019, the Human Rights Council will hold a half-day intersessional interactive dialogue on ways to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in its meetings on issues affecting them, pursuant to paragraph 11 of its resolution 39/13.



provides that each committee should elect a Chair, one or more Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Expert Mechanism will have before it the provisional agenda of the twelfth session (A/HRC/EMRIP/2019/1) and the annotations contained herein. The Expert Mechanism will adopt the agenda, including any revisions that it may wish to make.

At its thirty-third session, the Human Rights Council decided that the Expert Mechanism should meet annually for up to five days and that the sessions may be a combination of open and private meetings as deemed necessary (see Council resolution 33/25, para. 12). For its twelfth session, the Expert Mechanism will meet for five days, from 15 to 19 July 2019.

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 for the twelfth session.

3. Study and advice on indigenous peoples' rights in the context of borders, migration and displacement

At its eleventh session, the Expert Mechanism decided that its next annual study on the status of the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the Declaration, mandated by the Council in its resolution 33/25, paragraph 2 (a), would focus on the theme of indigenous peoples, migration and borders (see A/HRC/39/68, para. 82).

Accordingly, the Expert Mechanism has prepared a draft study on indigenous peoples' rights in the context of borders, migration and displacement (A/HRC/EMRIP/2019/2). To contribute to the study, and following the practice adopted for its previous studies, the Expert Mechanism sent out a call for submissions and examined the issue in greater detail at an expert seminar held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in November 2018.

Under agenda item 3, the Expert Mechanism and observers will make comments and suggestions on the draft study. The Expert Mechanism will subsequently finalize the study and submit it to the Council at its forty-second session.

4. Coordination meeting of United Nations indigenous rights mechanisms (closed meeting)

As set out in paragraph 10 of its resolution 33/25, the Council decided that, within its mandate, the Expert Mechanism should coordinate its work and further strengthen its participation, engagement and cooperation, as appropriate, with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and other United Nations bodies and processes. The Expert Mechanism will therefore hold a closed meeting of United Nations indigenous rights mechanisms in order to coordinate their work and plan joint initiatives for 2019/20.

5. Intersessional activities and follow-up to thematic studies and advice

At its eighteenth session, the Human Rights Council welcomed the practice adopted by the Expert Mechanism of devoting specific time to the discussion of updates relevant to past mandated thematic studies of the Expert Mechanism, recommended that the Expert Mechanism adopt this practice on a permanent basis and encouraged States to continue to participate in and contribute to these discussions (see Council resolution 18/8, para. 5).

Under this agenda item, the Expert Mechanism will consider follow-up to its previous studies, particularly the 2018 study on free, prior and informed consent (A/HRC/39/62).

The item will also provide an opportunity to discuss intersessional activities of the Expert Mechanism, including its intersessional meeting held in Chiang Mai in November 2018.

6. Country engagement

As part of its amended mandate set out in Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism should, upon request, assist Member States and/or indigenous peoples in identifying the need for and providing technical advice regarding the development of domestic legislation and policies relating to the rights of indigenous peoples.

The Expert Mechanism has carried out three country engagement missions under its amended mandate since 2018 (Finland, 10–16 February 2018; Mexico, 26 February–2 March 2018; New Zealand, 8–13 April 2019). Under agenda item 6, the Expert Mechanism will carry out a dialogue with various stakeholders involved in these missions.

7. Panel discussion on indigenous women in power

At its intersessional meeting in Chiang Mai in November 2018, the Expert Mechanism decided to hold a panel discussion at its twelfth session to examine indigenous women's political participation. The panel discussion will bring together indigenous women currently serving or having served in parliament and/or Government, taking regional balance into account.

The objectives of the panel discussion are: to discuss the motivation behind indigenous women pursuing a career in mainstream politics; to give indigenous women serving in parliament or Government an opportunity to share their experiences; to examine the challenges and barriers to indigenous women's participation in mainstream politics; to discuss how the United Nations and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples can support indigenous women in office in their political role.

8. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The amended mandate of the Expert Mechanism is explicitly based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as set out in paragraph 1 of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25. Under agenda item 8, the Expert Mechanism will hold an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and members of human rights treaty bodies.

The Expert Mechanism will present a draft report, under paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 33/25, on good practices and lessons learned regarding efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, with a focus on recognition, reparations and reconciliation (A/HRC/EMRIP/2019/3), with a view to finalizing it before presenting it to the Council at its forty-second session.

The Expert Mechanism will also hold a closed meeting with experts from the supervisory bodies of the International Labour Organization, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the human rights treaty bodies, as well as with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

9. Future work of the Expert Mechanism, including focus of future thematic studies

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (a) of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism is to prepare an annual study on the status of the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the Declaration, focusing on one or more interrelated articles of the Declaration, decided by the Expert Mechanism, taking into consideration the suggestions received from Member States and indigenous peoples, including challenges, good practices and recommendations. The agenda item will include a discussion regarding the focus of such future annual studies.

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

Pursuant to Human Rights Council 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 the thematic expertise of the Expert Mechanism could assist in the implementation of the Council's mandate and mechanisms.

11. Adoption of studies and reports

The Expert Mechanism will adopt its study and advice on indigenous peoples' rights in the context of borders, migration and displacement; a report examining good practices and lessons learned regarding efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, focusing on recognition, reparations and reconciliation; and an annual report on its work, including its twelfth session, with a view to submitting those documents to the Human Rights Council at its forty-second session.
