

International Updates: Report from EMRIP
Friends,

On July 11-15, the Center participated in the annual meeting of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Geneva, Switzerland, to advance efforts to create an implementing and monitoring body for the UN Declaration and to enable the participation of indigenous governments at the UN. These commitments were won in the World Conference Outcome Document and the UN is expected to take final actions on these matters in the next several months.

An implementing and monitoring body for the UN Declaration

The Human Rights Council is ultimately responsible for deciding how to strengthen the mandate of the Expert Mechanism to better implement and monitor the compliance of countries with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Mechanism can only suggest proposals toward that end. The Center offered several proposals which have been developed and supported by many tribal nations and organizations. Our statements are available [here](#). Some of the proposals are reflected in the advance copy of the [Mechanism's report](#), which is attached, but work remains to ensure the Council improves the mandate to enable the body to act on its own initiative and to complete all of the necessary monitoring and implementing functions: to seek information, to write reports, and to make and follow-up on its recommendations. The full report of the Mechanism to the Council, once finalized, will be available [here](#).

The Human Rights Council will meet from September 13-30 in Geneva to consider and adopt the resolution to improve the mandate of the Expert Mechanism, and we plan to participate in negotiations and to lobby countries to secure the best text possible. We hope you can join us to ensure indigenous peoples have an effective implementing body to secure their land rights, stop encroachments by extractive industries, combat climate change and violence against indigenous women, and to address other serious situations and violations of their human rights.

During its session, the Council will also hold a half-day panel discussion on the causes and consequences of violence against indigenous women; consider the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; consider the report and recommendations of the Expert Workshop on the Review of EMRIP; and adopt its annual resolution on human rights and indigenous peoples. We understand that all of these meetings will probably take place September 20, if not throughout the week of September 19. Please email me if you are interested in participating and we can help coordinate. More information about the Council's session, once available, will be posted [here](#).

Indigenous governments at the UN

On July 8, the advisers of the President of the General Assembly released the final compilation on how to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant UN bodies. The advisers also released an addendum which is intended to form the basis for a resolution in the General Assembly. The incoming President of the General Assembly, Peter Thomson (Fiji), will need to re-launch this process once the General Assembly's 71st session opens on September 13, 2016. The [compilation](#) and [addendum](#) are attached and more information can be found [here](#).

Please let me know if you have any questions or want to learn more about engaging in these processes more directly.

Best,

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