

Criteria for the selection of beneficiaries of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples

According to General Assembly resolution 40/131, the only beneficiaries of assistance from the Fund shall be representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and communities:

- i) Who are so considered by the Board of Trustees;
- ii) Who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend meetings without the assistance provided by the Fund;
- iii) Who would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on these mechanisms and bodies of the problems affecting indigenous peoples and who would secure a broad geographical representation.

In addition, the Secretary-General approved the following criteria upon recommendation by the Board:

Additional criteria that only apply to the Treaty bodies:

- (a) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding of relevant procedures of the UN human rights treaty bodies;
- (b) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding about issues and problems on the indigenous peoples concerned, which are relevant to the respective treaty body;
- (c) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding of national laws as well as international and indigenous human rights standards;
- (d) Applications must show that nominating indigenous organizations and communities have submitted or are planning to submit information to the secretariat of the relevant treaty body. Joint submissions with other indigenous or non-indigenous organizations are desirable;
- (e) Applications from indigenous organizations and communities that show their capacity to monitor the implementation of the concluding observations of the treaty body and their intention to submit information to the secretariat of the relevant treaty bodies on the state of implementation of the recommendations concerning indigenous peoples at the domestic level are desirable;
- (f) The Board strongly encourages applications from indigenous women, youth and indigenous persons with disabilities;
- (g) The Board will not consider applications from indigenous representatives and their nominating organizations that have been beneficiaries of the Fund and failed to submit their evaluation forms;
- (h) In addition to the criteria for selection of beneficiaries of the Fund, applicants must abide by the specific rules and procedures of each treaty body.

Additional criteria that only apply to the Human Right Council:

- (a) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding of relevant procedures of the Human Rights Council;
- (b) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding about issues and problems on the indigenous peoples concerned, which are relevant to the issues debated in a specific session of the Human Rights Council;
- (c) Applicants must provide proof of the ECOSOC status of the NGO they represent and a written confirmation of accreditation by an NGO with the ECOSOC status;
- (d) The Board strongly encourages applications from indigenous women, youth and indigenous persons with disabilities;
- (e) The Board will not consider applications from indigenous representatives and their nominating organizations that have been beneficiaries of the Fund and failed to submit their evaluation forms.

Additional criteria that only apply to the Universal Period Review:

- (a) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding of relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures of the Human Rights Council, in particular the Universal Periodic Review;
- (b) Applicants must have knowledge and understanding about issues and problems of the indigenous peoples concerned, which can be demonstrated by the engagement of the sponsoring organization in the process leading to the review of the concerned State;
- (c) Applicants must demonstrate the development of a strategy in order to monitor the implementation of the recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review;
- (d) Applicants must provide proof of the ECOSOC status of the NGO they represent and/or written confirmation of accreditation by an NGO with the ECOSOC status;
- (e) Priority will be given to applications from indigenous organizations and communities who have contributed in the preparation of the country report and/or have submitted information for the stakeholders' summary report prepared by the OHCHR. Joint submissions with other indigenous or non-indigenous organizations are desirable;
- (f) The Board strongly encourages applications from indigenous women, youth and indigenous persons with disabilities;
- (g) The Board will not consider applications from indigenous representatives and their nominating organizations that have been beneficiaries of the Fund and failed to submit their evaluation forms.