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Human Rights Council
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Eighteenth session
14–18 July 2025
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

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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,¹ as applicable, unless subsequently otherwise decided by the Assembly or the Council.

Regarding the election of officers, rule 103 of the rules of procedure 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 eighteenth session and the annotations thereto. The Expert Mechanism will adopt the agenda, including any revisions that it may wish to make.

In paragraph 12 of its resolution 33/25, 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. At its eighteenth session, the Expert Mechanism will meet for five days, from 14 to 18 July 2025.

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 eighteenth session.

3. Study and advice on the right of Indigenous Peoples to data, including data collection and disaggregation

At its seventeenth session, the Expert Mechanism decided to conduct its next annual study on the status of the rights of Indigenous Peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as mandated by the Human Rights Council in paragraph 2 (a) of its resolution 33/25, on the right of Indigenous Peoples to data, including data collection and disaggregation.²

The Expert Mechanism accordingly prepared a draft study thereon.³ Following the practice adopted for its previous studies, the Expert Mechanism sent out a call for submissions and contributions. The annual intersessional seminar of the Expert Mechanism – a key opportunity for experts to gather and for Indigenous Peoples, civil society and other practitioners to bring to the attention of the Expert Mechanism relevant information that contributes to the work and analysis of the Mechanism – was cancelled in 2024 owing to the liquidity crisis.

In December 2024, a meeting held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, by the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and the Christensen Fund, both non-governmental organizations, contributed to the collection of information and provided inputs to the study of the Expert Mechanism.

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 Human Rights Council for adoption at its sixtieth session.

¹ A/520/Rev.17.

² See A/HRC/57/64, para. 99.

³ A/HRC/EMRIP/2025/2.

4. Coordination meeting of United Nations Indigenous rights mechanisms

In paragraph 10 of its resolution 33/25, the Human Rights 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. The Expert Mechanism will therefore hold a closed meeting of United Nations Indigenous rights mechanisms to coordinate their work and plan joint initiatives for the period 2025–26.

5. 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. 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 the treaty bodies.

In accordance with paragraph 2 (b) of Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism will also present a report on good practices and lessons learned from efforts to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with a focus on traditional economies.⁴ The report will be submitted to the Council at its sixtieth session.

6. Country engagement

In its resolution 33/25, the Human Rights Council decided that 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 seven country engagement initiatives under its amended mandate since 2018. The Expert Mechanism will undertake a ninth country engagement mission in Brazil in September 2025.

The Expert Mechanism will hold a dialogue with various stakeholders involved in previous country engagements, including with regard to follow-up strategies.

7. International Decade of Indigenous Languages

The Expert Mechanism joins the efforts, led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to draw global attention to the critical situation of many Indigenous languages, following the proclamation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 74/135, of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the Expert Mechanism will hold a discussion on the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

8. Panel discussion on the role of national and regional human rights institutions in achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

In its resolution 33/25, the Human Rights Council encouraged the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to enhance its engagement with national human rights

⁴ A/HRC/EMRIP/2025/3.

institutions, which should be in accordance with the mandates of each national human rights institution.

A panel discussion will be held with the aim of identifying areas for strengthening cooperation between national human rights institutions compliant with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and regional human rights institutions and the Expert Mechanism.

The panel will have the objective of examining existing good practices, and challenges and barriers encountered, in recognizing and safeguarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples by bringing international human rights standards into domestic legal and policy frameworks; enhancing the equal access and enjoyment of rights by Indigenous Peoples; and promoting the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making on issues that concern them.

9. Enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations

At its intersessional meeting held in Costa Rica in November 2023, the Expert Mechanism decided to follow up on the process that had begun with a commitment, made by Member States during the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014, to enhance the participation of representatives and institutions of Indigenous Peoples in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them. That commitment was reiterated by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/321 and by the Secretary-General in his report on enhancing the participation of representatives and institutions of Indigenous Peoples in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them.⁵ In his report, the Secretary-General also set out achievements, analysis and concrete recommendations on the possible further measures necessary to enable such participation.

The Expert Mechanism will focus on reflecting and following up on the most recent intersessional meetings of the Human Rights Council, held in July and October 2024, on concrete ways to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Council.⁶

10. Future work of the Expert Mechanism, including follow-up to recommendations made in previous studies and advice

In paragraph 2 (a) of its resolution 33/25, the Human Rights Council decided that the Expert Mechanism should prepare an annual study on the status of the rights of Indigenous Peoples worldwide in the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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 with regard to challenges, good practices and recommendations. The Expert Mechanism will hold a discussion on the focus of future annual studies.

In paragraph 5 of its resolution 18/8, 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 that practice on a permanent basis, and encouraged States to continue to participate in and contribute to those discussions.

The Expert Mechanism will consider follow-up efforts conducted or planned in follow-up to recommendations made in its previous studies.

⁵ [A/75/255](#).

⁶ See www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/1st-intersessional-meeting-participation-indigenous-peoples and www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/2nd-intersessional-meeting-participation-indigenous-peoples.

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

According 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, which may include proposals on how the thematic expertise of the Expert Mechanism could assist in the implementation of the Council's mandate and mechanisms.

12. Adoption of studies and reports

The Expert Mechanism will adopt its study and advice on the right of Indigenous Peoples to data, including data collection and disaggregation, the report on good practices and lessons learned from efforts to achieve the ends on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, focusing on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their traditional economies and an annual report on its work, including its eighteenth session, with a view to submitting those documents to the Human Rights Council for consideration at its sixtieth session.
