Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Twenty-second session

New York, 17–28 April 2023

Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Tove Søvndahl **Gant**

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[*To be completed*]

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

Decision of the Permanent Forum

2. The following oral decision adopted by the Forum at its 1st meeting, on 17 April, is brought to the attention of the Council.

The Forum decides to enlarge its Bureau to seven members for its twenty-second session to better represent each of its seven regional groups.

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum

3. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples, the private sector and non‑governmental organizations assist in their realization.

4. It is the understanding of the Permanent Forum that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations as set out below will be implemented to the extent possible within the context of the approved programme of work of the relevant entities.

[*To be completed with text of recommendations*]

Chapter II

Venue, dates and proceedings of the session

5. By its decision 2022/353, the Economic and Social Council decided that the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 17–28 April 2023.

6. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 18 April, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 3, entitled “Discussion on the theme, ‘Indigenous peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach’. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat transmitting the findings of a study, commissioned by the Forum, on Indigenous determinants of health in the 2030 Agenda (E/C.19/2023/5). At its 13th meeting, on 28 April, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

7. At its 7th and 9th meetings, on 20 and 24 April, the Forum considered agenda item 4, entitled “Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it three notes by the Secretariat, entitled “System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including in the 2030 Agenda: implementation by the United Nations system” (E/C.19/2023/2); “Indigenous determinants of health in the 2030 Agenda” (E/C.19/2023/5); and “Implementing free, prior and informed consent in the context of Indigenous Peoples” (E/C.19/2023/6).  At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

8. At its 9th meeting, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (a), entitled “Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

9. At its 12th meeting, on 27 April, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (b), entitled “Dialogue with Member States”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

10. At its 10th meeting, on 25 April, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (c), entitled “Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

11. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 19 April, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (d), entitled “Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

12. At seven informal meetings, including two sets of two meetings held in parallel, on 26 and 27 April, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (e), entitled “Regional dialogues”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

13. At its 2nd meeting, on 17 April, the Forum considered item 5 (f), entitled “Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

14. Also at its 2nd meeting, on 17 April, the Forum considered agenda item 5 (g), entitled “Thematic dialogues”. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

15. At its 8th meeting, on 24 April, the Forum considered agenda item 6, entitled “Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues”. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the international expert group meeting on the theme “Truth, transitional justice and reconciliation processes” (E/C.19/2023/3). At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. B).

16. At its 13th meeting, the Forum considered agenda item 7, entitled “Provisional agenda of the twenty-third session”, and agenda item 8, entitled “Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-second session”. At the same meeting, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision submitted under that item (see chap. I, sect. A).

17. At three informal closed meetings, on 20, 26 and 28 April, the Permanent Forum met to hold discussions.

Chapter III

Adoption of the report of the Forum on its twenty‑ second session

18. At the 13th meeting, the Rapporteur introduced the draft decisions and recommendations and the draft report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-second session.

19. At the same meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted its draft report.

Chapter IV

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

20. The Permanent Forum held its twenty-second session at United Nations Headquarters from 17 to 28 April 2023. It held 13 formal meetings, including 3 closed meetings, and 10 informal meetings, including 3 closed meetings and 2 meetings in parallel, twice, to consider the items on its agenda.

21. At the 1st meeting, on 17 April, the session was opened by the temporary Chair, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. At the opening ceremony, the traditional Chief of the Onondaga Nation, Tadodaho Sid Hill, delivered a welcoming address. At the same meeting, the Forum adopted an oral draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B).

22. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the President of Colombia, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the United States Secretary of the Interior.

B. Attendance

23. Members of the Forum and representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and bodies, United Nations entities and non-governmental and Indigenous organizations attended the session. The list of participants will be published at a later date.

C. Election of officers

24. At its 1st meeting, the Forum elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

*Chair*:

Darío José Mejía Montalvo

*Vice-Chairs*:

Geoffrey Scott Roth

Suleiman Mamutov

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim

Hannah McGlade

Hanieh Moghani

*Rapporteur*:

Tove Søvndahl Gant

D. Agenda

25. At its 1st meeting, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/C.19/2023/1.

E. Documentation

26. The list of the documents before the Forum at its twenty-second session will be published at a later date.