

# Views on:

## **Integration of Article 8(j) and provisions related to indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention and its Protocols**

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1. Tell us about yourself, and your institution which you represent

I am a member of the UN Permanent Forum on indigenous issues. I work with Tumaini University Makumira in Arusha, where I teach International Law, Human Rights Law and Environmental Law. A decade ago, I co-founded the Association for Law and Advocacy for Pastoralists (ALAPA) based in Arusha, Tanzania

2. Based on your experience on traditional knowledge (TK) and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), share some views regarding the future work on TK within the CBD and its Protocols

*The UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues welcomes the idea of having a permanent body with the specific mandate of addressing issues relating to indigenous peoples and local communities.*

*The body should be open ended as suggested.*

*Most importantly, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) provides the foundation for indigenous peoples aspirations. Its importance in providing “conceptual sign posts” should be highlighted more from 2020 going forward*

*Issues of representation of indigenous peoples and aspects of self selection to be respected.*

### 3. Based on your experience on TK and IPLCs, share some views regarding the future work on TK within the CBD and its Protocols

- *A need exists for further clarifying the distinction and implications of reference to indigenous peoples and local communities.*
- *This can be done through commissioning a position paper that highlights legal and institutional implications thereof*
- *Avoidance of misappropriation of traditional knowledge through law and other means*
- *Respecting land rights because these are central to biodiversity conservation and climate resilience practices.*
- *The role of traditional institutions should be scaled up*

#### 4. Based on your experience on TK and IPLCs, share some views regarding the future work on TK within the CBD and its Protocols

- *Keeping an eye & more emphasis on National implementation of the guidelines and principles relating to the work on Article 8j*
- *The UNPFII realizes that the “national level” is where the rubber hits the road”. Without emphasis on national level actions colorful principles may not benefit indigenous peoples and local communities.*
- *Customary Sustainable use of biological resources. The Forum is more concerned with indigenous hunter-gatherers whose lives are intrinsically dependent on their sustainable use of biological resources. More discussions on their plight should happen at the regional and international levels as standards setters.*
- *More research on science and Indigenous knowledge in climate resilience needed.*

## 5. Question

How can indigenous peoples build on the gains made over the last few years, by ensuring that their effective participation is not undermined?