



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
1 February 2021

Original: English

## Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

### Twentieth session

New York, 19–30 April 2021

Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

**Follow-up to the outcome document of the World  
Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030  
Agenda for Sustainable Development**

## Update on indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

### Note by the Secretariat

#### *Summary*

The present report provides an update on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from the perspective of indigenous peoples, including in the light of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as an expert body of the Economic and Social Council, plays a significant role in providing expert advice on how to ensure that the rights of indigenous peoples are effectively accounted for and realized in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In the report, key elements of General Assembly resolution [75/168](#) on the rights of indigenous peoples and the activities and outcomes of the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development are set out. The report also includes an overview of the voluntary national reviews by Member States of progress achieved towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as they pertain to indigenous peoples. It concludes with highlights from global and regional reports on the sustainable development of indigenous peoples and reflections on the theme of the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development: “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.

\* [E/C.19/2021/1](#).



## I. Introduction

1. When the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, it established a bold and inclusive universal global agenda aimed at ending all forms of poverty and addressing a range of diverse issues, including health, education, social protection, climate change and environmental protection. The goal of the 2030 Agenda is to achieve transformative change with respect to people, the planet, prosperity, peace and partnership.

2. The 2030 Agenda contains six specific references to indigenous peoples, including a commitment to doubling the agricultural output of indigenous small-scale farmers (target 2.3) and a commitment to ensuring equal access to education for indigenous children (target 4.5). In addition to the direct references, many of the Goals and associated targets are concordant with indigenous peoples' aspirations in the economic, social and environmental spheres. In the 2030 Agenda, Member States are encouraged to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and subnational levels that are country-led and country-driven, and the need for indigenous peoples and other stakeholders to participate in such reviews and follow-ups is stressed. The overarching framework of the 2030 Agenda contains elements that articulate key development concerns of indigenous peoples, who continue to be universally disadvantaged vis-à-vis other segments of the population. Pandemics such as the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic have exposed the existing inequities and historical injustices that indigenous peoples continue to face.

3. In the 2030 Agenda, States are also called upon to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts (target 17.18). In that regard, the disaggregation of data according to indigenous or ethnic identity across all Goals is also to be included in the monitoring of progress for indigenous peoples.

4. The COVID-19 pandemic and its far-reaching social and economic consequences continue to have a negative impact on the trajectory towards achieving the Goals, especially for disadvantaged populations, including indigenous peoples. In this vein, the need for high-quality data on the situation of indigenous peoples, which can support targeted interventions, becomes even more critical during epidemics and pandemics. However, this has been a challenge, since the collection and disaggregation of data on indigenous peoples is often inadequate or even non-existent.<sup>1</sup>

5. Member States expressed a commitment to empowering and engaging indigenous peoples in the implementation of the Goals. In addition to specific references to indigenous peoples, the 2030 Agenda contains commitments to leave no one behind and reach the furthest behind first. The COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented health, economic and social crisis, has rendered the achievement of the Goals more challenging, making the commitment of leaving no one behind seem even more distant, especially for disadvantaged groups, including indigenous peoples.

6. Furthermore, the COVID-19 crisis is putting the 2030 Agenda to the test: how the crisis and its ongoing social and economic consequences are addressed will serve as a litmus test for the pledge to leave no one behind.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See [www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---gender/documents/publication/wcms\\_757475.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---gender/documents/publication/wcms_757475.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> See [www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---gender/documents/publication/wcms\\_747327.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---gender/documents/publication/wcms_747327.pdf).

7. The 2030 Agenda contains references to indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge under Goal 2 on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture, in which Member States are called upon, by 2020, to maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and to promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed (target 2.5). It is worth noting that indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge systems and traditional food sources can contribute directly to the protection of biodiversity and aid in poverty eradication, conflict resolution, food security and ecosystem health, as well as climate change mitigation. Indigenous peoples have a unique understanding of the environment and have developed sophisticated conservation and resource management practices and innovations, such as methods of rotational agriculture, irrigation systems, rice terraces, seed storage, crop diversification and sustainable use of natural resources, that can advance the achievement of the Goals.

8. The international community reaffirmed its commitment to international law and emphasized that the 2030 Agenda was to be implemented in a manner consistent with the rights and obligations of States under international law. The process of implementing the 2030 Agenda through the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals presents a renewed opportunity for the experiences and perspectives of indigenous peoples to be made more visible. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is the principal international instrument with global consensus on the rights of indigenous peoples and provides a road map for equitable, participatory and people-centred sustainable development, including the attainment of the Goals.

9. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is an expert body of the Economic and Social Council<sup>3</sup> and plays a central role in ensuring that the rights and priorities of indigenous peoples are considered in every aspect of efforts to achieve the Goals. The present report follows up on the update on indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda that was prepared for the nineteenth session of the Forum (E/C.19/2020/2).

## II. Gaps and challenges in achieving the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples

10. As an advisory body of the Economic and Social Council on indigenous issues, the Permanent Forum includes the consideration of the 2030 Agenda as an agenda item at its annual sessions. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Permanent Forum postponed its 2020 annual session with the theme "Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16" and rescheduled it for the 2021 session. It is worth noting that Goal 16 forms the basis for the attainment of many of the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Moreover, for indigenous peoples, the largest number of recommendations emanating from United Nations human rights treaty bodies pertain to issues related to Goal 16, such as access to non-discriminatory

<sup>3</sup> The General Assembly, in its resolution [75/168](#) on the rights of indigenous peoples, addressed the connection between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and indigenous peoples. It again stressed the need to ensure that no one is left behind and to reach the furthest behind first, including indigenous peoples, who should participate in, contribute to and benefit without discrimination from the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

and inclusive justice, recognition of indigenous institutions, the principle of free, prior and informed consent and the right to lands, territories and resources.

11. In order to continue its engagement and support, the Permanent Forum conducted virtual meetings with a range of partners, including Member States, indigenous peoples and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, on issues of relevance to the implementation of the Goals. Informal regional consultations were also held, which included discussions on the Goals, with particular relevance to Goal 16.

12. During a virtual discussion held with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with regard to the preparations leading to the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, Permanent Forum members noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had increased the attention of the international community to indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge practices related to indigenous food systems, biodiversity and climate change. FAO has established a collaborative workplan to ensure the full participation of indigenous peoples in the preparations for the Summit, including the launch of a global hub on indigenous food systems to provide evidence-based inputs.<sup>4</sup>

13. The inclusion of indigenous peoples as agents of change and the integration of the wealth of their traditional knowledge and practices continues to be a persistent gap in implementing the 2030 Agenda. However, it is worth emphasizing that the pandemic can also be seen as a turning point and an opportunity to promote, preserve and strengthen indigenous traditional knowledge and indigenous food production systems, further contributing to building societies that are more resilient in the face of pandemics and climate change. It is a tool that can aid Member States in meeting the Goals on ending hunger and achieving greater environmental sustainability.<sup>5</sup>

14. In the dialogue held between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Permanent Forum, UNESCO noted that the upcoming United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) would include actions taken to ensure the inclusion of indigenous peoples. That would entail integrating indigenous and local knowledge into the observation systems and portals in which indigenous knowledge can be included as part of a global infrastructure to influence policy and decision-making.

15. The importance of the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples was also recognized by Member States when they attended the summit on biodiversity on the theme “Urgent action on biodiversity for sustainable development”, held on 30 September 2020. A call was made for all Member States to, inter alia, mobilize a full and effective partnership across States and societies, engaging all relevant businesses and consumers, including indigenous peoples and local communities. It was further stated that living in harmony with nature should be promoted through education, science, technology and traditional knowledge, while at the same time safeguarding the rights of indigenous peoples and empowering local authorities, women and young people. Countries noted that indigenous peoples must play a central role in the conceptualization and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in order to integrate nature-based solutions and strategies in policymaking. Moreover, Summit participants noted that traditional knowledge was particularly important, especially at the local level. The grave socioeconomic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic were also underscored, as many countries noted the opportunities of building back better, including efforts to spend more

<sup>4</sup> See [www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/global-hub/en](http://www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/global-hub/en).

<sup>5</sup> See [http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/IPeoples/OHCHRGuidance\\_COVID19\\_IndigenousPeoplesRights.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/IPeoples/OHCHRGuidance_COVID19_IndigenousPeoplesRights.pdf).

resources on sustainability and greener and bluer economies while ensuring equity and improving the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities.<sup>6</sup>

### **III. Monitoring the progress of indigenous peoples in implementing the 2030 Agenda**

16. As recommended by the Permanent Forum and authorized by the Economic and Social Council in 2019, a virtual international expert group meeting was held from 7 to 11 December 2020, on the theme “Indigenous peoples and pandemics”.

17. During the meeting, experts noted the inadequate response programmes of some Governments during the pandemic, as well as a lack of full and effective participation by indigenous peoples in decision-making. However, indigenous communities continued to organize community responses to the pandemic, taking care of their members by, for example, providing food and supplies, oxygen tanks and rapid COVID-19 tests and taking special measures to protect elders.

18. Experts further noted that, in order to address the challenges relating to pandemics and in the face of cases of overstretched national health systems, indigenous peoples had drawn upon their knowledge of ancestral and traditional medicinal plants while carefully studying COVID-19 symptoms. There were also repeated calls for government health ministries to work more closely with the leaders of indigenous peoples’ communities and engage in constructive dialogue, especially during times of pandemics. The urgent need to rebuild and repair trust between indigenous peoples and their national health systems was also cited.

19. Some experts noted that a lack of understanding existed regarding the integrity of indigenous peoples’ lands and the importance of meaningful consultation, often resulting in non-indigenous individuals that were sick or asymptomatic carriers entering indigenous communities and infecting them, stressing that the right to health must go hand in hand with indigenous peoples’ rights to self-determination and free, prior and informed consent.

20. A note by the Secretariat on the discussions and outcome of the expert group meeting will be presented at the 2021 session of the Permanent Forum. It will include a set of recommendations from the meeting that will contribute to the achievement of Goal 3 on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, as well as the further participation and inclusion of indigenous peoples and their development priorities in the implementation of the Goals at all levels.

#### **A. 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development**

21. In July 2020, the annual high-level political forum on sustainable development was held in New York under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, under the theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. In accordance with paragraph 84 of the 2030 Agenda, 47 Member States conducted voluntary reviews of the 2030 Agenda at the 2020 high-level political forum.

22. In her summary of the 2020 high-level political forum, the President of the Economic and Social Council reported that many speakers had emphasized the need to involve vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, in decision-making and take their needs and rights into account. Moreover, she noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating and highly disproportionate impact on the most

<sup>6</sup> Summary of the President of the General Assembly on the summit on biodiversity.

vulnerable communities, notably indigenous peoples, such as exacerbating pre-existing economic, social and environmental inequalities and threatening the achievement of the Goals.

23. In the report of the Secretary-General on accelerated action and transformative pathways for realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development (E/2020/59), prepared for the high-level political forum, it was noted that certain population groups were at higher risk of adverse consequences of global warming of 1.5°C and higher. These included disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, indigenous peoples and local communities dependent on agricultural and coastal livelihoods.

24. Indigenous peoples participated in various events during the 2020 high-level political forum to highlight the need for greater inclusion and incorporation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the 2030 Agenda process. Four events were focused on the Goals and the 2030 Agenda in particular: one entitled “The right energy partnership: rights-based approaches to renewable energy development”; another entitled “Earth Observations-based solutions for indigenous peoples: accelerated land use and management actions to achieve indigenous peoples’ and organizations’ 2030 socioeconomic goals”; an event entitled “Indigenous solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals with accelerated actions”; and a virtual voluntary national review laboratory entitled “Engaging social groups in the voluntary national review process and reaching the furthest behind: a case study of persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples”.

25. The laboratory concluded that some progress had been made to include the perspectives and ensure the participation of indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities in the voluntary national review process at the national level and at the high-level political forum itself. It noted that the lack of disaggregated data for indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities used in the voluntary national reviews must improve if Member States wish to achieve their commitments. There is also a need to supplement national statistics with co-generated and non-traditional methods of data collection. Moreover, the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities should be adequately reflected in the voluntary national review processes and both groups must be meaningfully engaged at every stage. Finally, the voluntary national review processes should lead to implementation at the national level while recognizing the ongoing need to strengthen stakeholder partnerships between Member States, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations.

26. The other four events were focused on COVID-19-related themes: an event on delivering results to ensure that indigenous peoples are not left behind in COVID-19 responses and beyond; an event on indigenous women, COVID-19 and the achievement of the Goals, with a focus on the “new normal” for front-line workers and accelerated collective actions; an event on accelerating good governance and indigenous autonomy for transformative partnership and action, with a focus on the lessons of COVID-19; and an event on partnering with indigenous peoples, with a focus on leveraging their knowledge to achieve the Goals by 2030 while recognizing the challenge of addressing the COVID-19 outbreak.

## **B. Voluntary national reviews at the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development**

27. In 2020, there were references to indigenous peoples in 14 of the 47 voluntary national reviews submitted by Member States.<sup>7</sup> Indigenous peoples were most frequently highlighted in reviews of Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all; Goal 17 on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development; Goal 15 on protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably managing forests, combating desertification, halting and reversing land degradation and halting biodiversity loss; and Goal 1 on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.

28. Bangladesh reported on the constraints faced by indigenous children in obtaining access to education. Despite progress in the enrolment of both boys and girls at the primary level, there were about 4 million children out of school throughout the country, with specific groups of children facing greater access constraints, including those in employment, those with disabilities, indigenous children, children living in remote areas or slums and those living in poverty. Bangladesh further stated that indigenous knowledge, practices and community voices needed to be recognized and integrated into the development of its basin-wide water resources management.

29. Costa Rica reported that it had implemented 65 new programmes to support the study of indigenous languages and culture. It also noted that its public policy design had led to innovation in decision-making through a multidimensional approach to poverty, as well as the use of tools such as the single digital health record, which contained digital patient data that were safely stored and could be exchanged and viewed by multiple authorized users in health-care centres, allowing for the consolidation of personal, demographic, social, economic and health-related data. Costa Rica further highlighted the challenge that it faced in disaggregating statistics by sex, age, area (e.g., urban or rural), disability, indigeneity and ethnicity.

30. The Democratic Republic of the Congo stated that it had created a national support fund for the development of indigenous peoples, recognizing the need for multi-stakeholder partnerships and including indigenous peoples at the forefront of project implementation. A programme to support forest-dependent communities was also established, placing indigenous peoples at the centre of intervention projects.

31. Finland reported that it had made progress in the teaching of Sami languages, including the option to study the languages at university (outside the Sami homeland), as well as during early childhood education and childcare. It further noted that its statistical data did not meet the in-depth disaggregation required in certain Goal indicators, highlighting that disaggregation on the grounds of vulnerable group status was seldom possible in its statistics. Disaggregation by race, ethnicity, indigenous status and disability is not included in official statistics for ethical reasons.

32. Honduras reported that its Agency for the Development of the Mosquitia had proposed a framework of inclusive participation in cooperation and coordination, emphasizing the principle of leaving no one behind by involving indigenous peoples in government interventions, dialogues and governance structures.

33. Panama reported that, in order to support indigenous peoples, it had developed an investment project for social integration and poverty reduction within the framework of the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan, which promotes

<sup>7</sup> Argentina, Bangladesh, Burundi, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Finland, Honduras, India, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nepal, Panama, Peru and Russian Federation.

entrepreneurship among indigenous populations in their territories to support economic independence and self-sufficiency.

34. The Russian Federation reported that it had established a special purpose fund to organize research into and study of the native languages and cultures of indigenous small ethnic communities and developed manuals on native languages and textbooks for study in native languages. In addition, a special ministerial target programme for the preservation and development of the languages of indigenous populations has been developed. Climate change has had an impact on the level of socioeconomic development in the Arctic, primarily with regard to the living conditions of indigenous small ethnic communities. In that vein, the Russian Federation voiced its support for the traditional activities of the region's indigenous peoples, including rangeland deer farming, which was of economic and cultural significance to the indigenous peoples of the extreme north.

35. Although most countries focused on developing targeted policies and programmes aimed at benefiting indigenous peoples, several also continued to engage in active partnerships with indigenous peoples to design and implement such policies and programmes. It is worth noting that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was referred to in the reviews of Finland and the Russian Federation. Reporting on good practices and the inclusion of indigenous peoples across each Goal, as urged by the Permanent Forum, remained very limited.

### **C. Regional and global reports on sustainable development, including for indigenous peoples**

36. In a note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the sixth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development ([E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.1](#)), the importance of achieving the meaningful and inclusive participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous communities, was emphasized as central to the objective of leaving no one behind. It was also agreed in a parallel meeting on the sub-theme of peace that an inclusive approach to governance was required, including access to justice and the rule of law and opportunities for marginalized people, including indigenous peoples.

37. In a note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development ([E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.3](#)), it was stated that major groups and other stakeholders viewed the voluntary national review process as an important advocacy space. Through well-defined engagement mechanisms, the contribution of stakeholders could be embedded into a whole-of-society approach. Moreover, across the region, different approaches to stakeholder engagement were reported that could be shared as lessons learned and as part of a peer exchange process, especially where limits to engagement were observed, as was noted by indigenous communities that reported a lack of involvement as stakeholders.

38. The indigenous peoples major group for sustainable development produced a thematic report for the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development. It noted that, after four years of implementation of the Goals, indigenous peoples across the globe were not just left behind but pushed further behind, as demonstrated by the continuing widespread grabbing of their lands and resources, the criminalization of indigenous human rights defenders, increasing poverty and hunger, loss of livelihood, the destruction of cultural heritage, forest degradation, loss of biodiversity, conflicts over resource use and development, increased violence against indigenous women and girls, rising inequality and a lack of access to justice. The major group stressed that, when indigenous peoples took action to protect their rights and defend their lands, territories and resources from destruction and expropriation,



they were being criminalized, with increasing cases of persecution, extrajudicial killings and other gross human rights violations. It was further noted in the thematic report that this illustrated the huge gap in the respect, protection and realization of the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples in relation to the implementation of the Goals and was contrary to the commitment of States to respect and protect indigenous peoples' rights as central to achieving the Goals.

39. The major group highlighted that, unless indigenous peoples had full tenure security over their territories and were free to pursue their self-determined development for the betterment of all, the pledge of leaving no one behind would remain as lip service. Finally, the group underlined that both political will and resources were urgently needed to undertake data disaggregation by ethnicity in the monitoring and reporting on the Goals at all levels in order to make indigenous peoples visible and accounted for in the implementation of the Goals.

**D. Theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2021: “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”**

40. The participants at the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session will consider the theme “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. At the time of writing, 44 countries, including 35 that had participated previously, had volunteered to present national reviews.

41. The high-level political forum will discuss Goal 1 on ending poverty; Goal 2 on hunger; Goal 3 on good health and well-being; Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth; Goal 10 on reduced inequalities; Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production; Goal 13 on climate action; Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions; and Goal 17 on partnerships for the Goals. The forum will also consider the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals. Moreover, participants will be able to explore various aspects of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures and types of international cooperation that can help to control the pandemic and its impacts and put the world back on track to achieve the Goals by 2030, within the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

42. The priority theme of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum is “Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16”. The session will also include a discussion on indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda. The report of the Permanent Forum will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council to provide input for the 2021 high-level political forum.

43. In the context of the reform of the United Nations system to help Member States to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Division for Inclusive Social Development, has also expanded its technical assistance to support Member States, at their request, in meeting the Goals, with a focus on leaving no one behind. For example, the Division, together with United

Nations partners, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), continues to cooperate closely with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda and its National Indigenous Peoples' Resource Committee on the preparation of an affirmative action programme on indigenous peoples in the country. In 2020, the development of the affirmative action programme took place through both virtual drafting meetings and community-level consultations.

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