Mandate, Priorities and Plans of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
Victoria Tauli Corpuz
Background: Special Rapporteurs

Titles of mandate holders:
• Special Rapporteurs
• Independent Experts
• Working groups

Nature of mandates:
• Thematic mandates (37 total)
• Country mandates (14 total)

Typical human rights violation
Thematic mandates

**Civil and political rights:** e.g. assembly, expression, torture, arbitrary detention. Extrajudicial killings, etc.

**Economic, social, cultural rights:** e.g. education, health, development, poverty, food, housing, violence vs. women, etc.

**Other:** e.g. human rights defenders, environment, indigenous peoples, minorities, trafficking, violence against women
SR on the rights of indigenous peoples

• Created in 2001
• Main instruments
  – UN Declaration on rights of indigenous peoples
  – ILO Convention No. 169
  – Other relevant UN treaties
  – Regional human rights instruments
Mandates from Human Rights Council

- Addresses specific cases of alleged violations of the rights of indigenous peoples through communications with Governments and others
- Reports on the overall human rights situations in selected countries (country visits)
- Examines ways and means of overcoming obstacles to full protection of IP rights, how to prevent and remedy HR violations of IPs
- Conducts or contributes to thematic studies on topics of special importance
Mandates from Human Rights Council

• Provides technical assistance to governments, UN system and other actors.
• Identifies, exchanges and promotes best practices
• Cooperates/coordinates closely with other SRs and subsidiary bodies of the HRC (Treaty Bodies, EMRIP), the UNPFII, regional HROs
• Promotes the UNDRIP and international/regional instruments relevant to IPs
Mandates from Human Rights Council

• Pays special attention to the human rights and of indigenous children and women, and to take into account a gender perspective

• Considers relevant recommendations of world conferences, summits and other UN meetings, as well as recommendations, observations and conclusions of treaty bodies.

• Submits report on implementation of her mandate to the HRC and UNGA
Code of Conduct/ Methods of work/ Major work areas

• **Integrity, Independence, Impartiality**

• Communications – use of social media: [indigenous@ohchr.org](mailto:indigenous@ohchr.org), [www.unsr.vtaulicorpuz.org](http://www.unsr.vtaulicorpuz.org)

• Country assessments

• Working visits – issue specific and does not need consent of governments

• Thematic reports

• Issue public statements on urgent cases
Code of Conduct, Methods of work, Major work areas

• Facilitate dialogues between indigenous peoples, governments, UN system, corporations
• Maintain linkages with indigenous peoples’ formations, NGOs, academia

- ADVOCACY, ANALYSIS, ADVISE
VISION AND KEY PRIORITIES
VISION

• Indigenous peoples’ rights are better protected, respected and fulfilled.
• Realization of indigenous peoples’ self-determined economic, social, cultural development
• Enhanced dialogues between IPs and governments, multilateral bodies, corporations
KEY PRIORITIES

• Focus on IPs’ collective economic, social, cultural and environmental rights: Obstacles and barriers to the realization of these
• Priority regions for country visits – Asia, Africa
• Thematic reports – indicative list; Safeguard policies of multilateral financial institutions/environmental treaties; effects of trade and investment agreements on IPs; Conflicts;
• Violence against indigenous women and girls
KEY PRIORITIES

• Sustained engagement with indigenous peoples, governments, UN system (including IASG, country teams), regional/national HR institutions;
• Collaborate with other SRs, UNPFII, EMRIP
• Mobilize external support – support team for SR
• Influence debates and policies on indigenous peoples, monitor developments in WCIP (World Conference on Indigenous Peoples), SDG, Post-2015 Development Agenda, Business and HR
DAKKEL AY IYAMAN!

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