



**Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Questionnaire on possible good practices in addressing the rights of  
indigenous peoples**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions are developing a guide on “*The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: An Operational Guide for National Human Rights Institutions*”.

This guide aims to support and strengthen the work of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) – whether they are human rights commissions or ombudsman offices – in the protection and enjoyment of indigenous peoples’ rights.

To gather information for the preparation of this guide, the OHCHR has developed a short questionnaire for national human rights institutions. The purpose of the questionnaire is to capture examples of good practices which will be used to illustrate the Guide.

Please note that you can access the questionnaire at <http://nhri.ohchr.org>

Kindly submit your responses **no later than 24 June 2011** preferably via email at [sslimane@ohchr.org](mailto:sslimane@ohchr.org)

- 1. What is your Institution's mandate in relation to specific groups? Does the mandate address indigenous peoples' rights in any specific way?**
- 2. What are the strengths [and weaknesses] of the mandate of your Institution with respect to indigenous peoples' rights?**
- 3. What kind of activities does your Institution undertake to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and disseminate the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?**
- 4. Is your Institution receiving complaints from indigenous peoples' representatives and how does it address the issue of collective rights?**
- 5. Does your Institution have specialized units or indigenous staff to address the rights of indigenous peoples?**
- 6. What is your Institution's current role in helping your Government implement the rights of indigenous peoples?**
- 7. Has your Institution engaged with relevant parliamentary committees on legislative reforms to promote harmonization with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?**
- 8. Has your Institution already intervened as amicus curiae or intervener in court proceedings that involved indigenous issues? What has been the impact?**
- 9. Has your Institution conducted research or public inquiries on specific issues pertaining to indigenous peoples? What has been the impact?**
- 10. How is your Institution engaging with indigenous peoples in matters relevant to them? Has your Institution established a specific mechanism to consult indigenous peoples?**
- 11. Has your Institution monitored the follow-up to any recommendations related to indigenous issues by the Human Rights Council's UPR process, Treaty Bodies or special procedures mandate holders?**
- 12. Does your institution have any regional or local presence in the areas with a high proportion of indigenous residents?**
- 13. Does your institution accept communications in indigenous languages? Are indigenous languages used in your own communication, including in letters, awareness raising materials and on the web site.**
- 14. Please provide other examples of your work which in your view have been of particular importance for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples and could be drawn upon by other NHRIs.**

Thank you in advance for your time and kind cooperation.