

Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations

Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Advisory body to ECOSOC with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues relating to:

- economic and social development,
- culture,
- environment,
- education,
- health and
- human rights



Indigenous peoples

- Approx. 370 million
- In some 90 countries
- In all regions of the world



Nature's stewards

- 5 % of the global population
- Manage 20–25 % of the Earth's land surface
- This land holds around 40 % of all terrestrial protected areas



Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Article 26

- 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.*
- 2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.*
- 3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.*



Facilitation

- Increasing awareness in international forums related to climate change, environmental degradation, food security and genetic resources, as well as science, technology and innovation
- Misappropriation and misuse of traditional knowledge still remaining
- Urgent action needed



Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 8

Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate:

(j) Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices;



CBD



Facilitation on the international level

- Facilitative Working Group of the local communities and indigenous peoples' platform within the UN FCCC
- International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity



Sources:
Top: Forest Peoples Programme
Bottom: UNFCCC



Finland: wilderness areas and the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines

*Source:
<http://nbsapforum.net/sites/default/files/Saami.png>*



Canada: Indigenous Circle of Experts

Source:
<https://www.iccaconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/DSC0192.jpg>



Tanzania: Yaeda Valley Project

Source:

<https://www.asiliaafrica.com/hadza-communities-win-2019-equator-prize-for-their-yaeda-valley-project/>

A person wearing a red shirt is paddling a long, narrow wooden boat on a calm lake. The water is still, reflecting the surrounding dense green forest and the person in the boat. The background shows a thick canopy of trees under a soft, hazy light, suggesting a misty or early morning atmosphere. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Indonesia: Landmark Constitutional Court Decisions

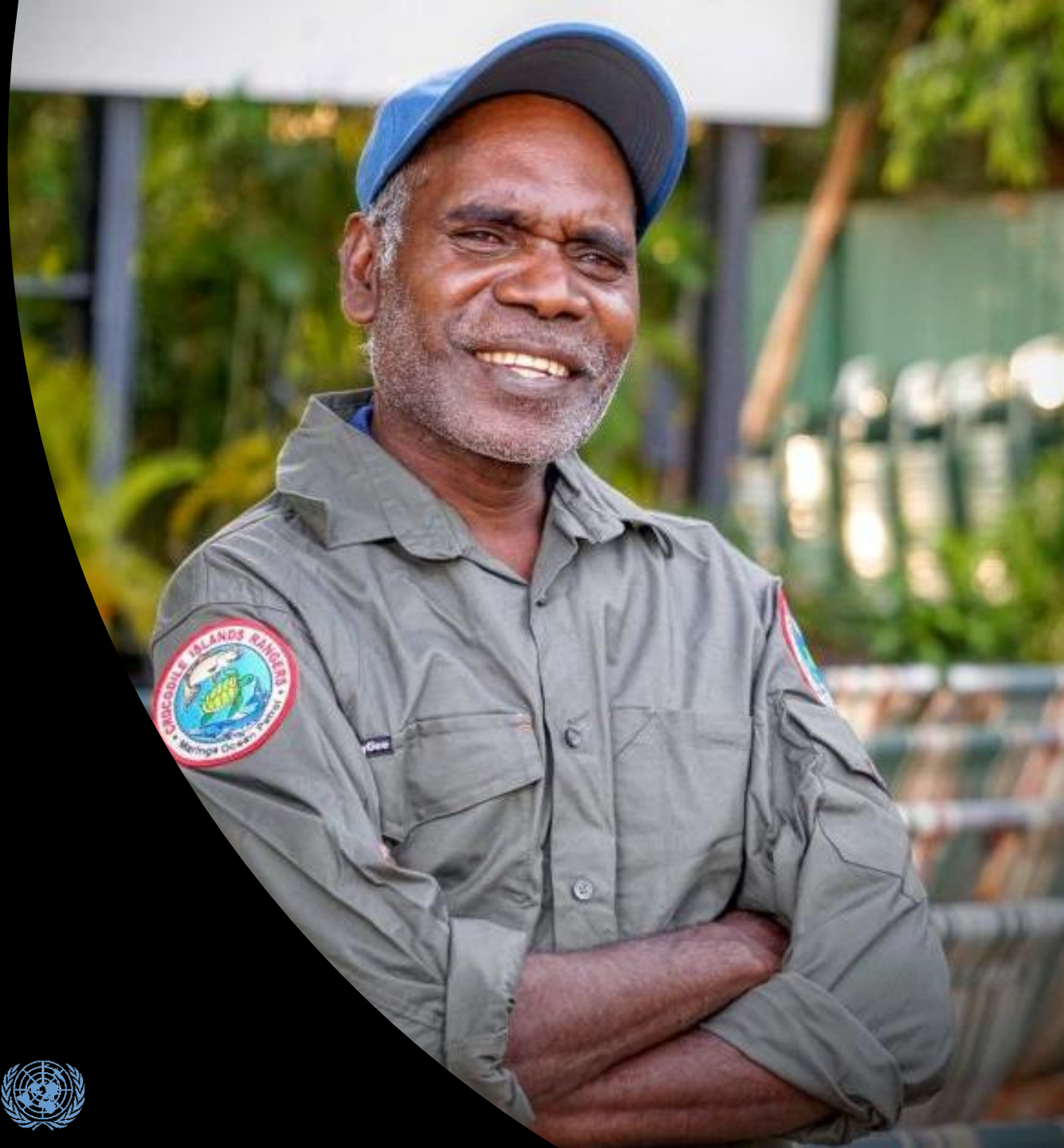
Source:

https://www.culturalsurvival.org/sites/default/files/styles/max_260x2600/public/media/images/boat-lake-indonesia_35183_990x742.jpg?itok=b05BIN_J

Australia: Indigenous Rangers

Source:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-09-14/crocodile-island-rangers-meet-eu-delegates/7844498>



A person wearing a red shirt and a cowboy hat is riding a dark horse on the edge of a large, flat-topped rock formation. The background shows other similar rock formations under a hazy, golden sky. The scene is captured in a cinematic style with warm lighting.

USA: Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park

*Source:
Yinyang/Getty Images*

Conclusion

- Recognize indigenous peoples' rights and traditional knowledge
- Enable their participation in decision-making processes at all levels
- Implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

