



**OPEN-ENDED MEETING OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD  
CONFERENCE ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

12 February 2015

Dear friends,

It is our pleasure to inform you that the **Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact, the International Indian Treaty Council, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and the Sami Parliament of Norway**, will be co-organizing an open-ended meeting of Indigenous peoples on the follow-up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP), in Geneva, Switzerland, from 3-5 March 2015. IWGIA has agreed to provide logistical support, including travel arrangements for funded participants.

The main objective of the meeting is to discuss the follow-up of the World Conference, in particular with regard to OP28 of the WCIP Outcome Document, which states:

*“We invite the Human Rights Council, taking into account the views of indigenous peoples, to review the mandates of its existing mechanisms, in particular the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, with a view to modifying and improving the Expert Mechanism so that it can more effectively promote respect for the Declaration, including by better assisting Member States to monitor, evaluate and improve the achievement of the ends of the Declaration.”*

A core objective will be the development of a consensus proposal from the participating Indigenous Peoples from all seven regions to be presented to the Human Rights Council, as the basis for a possible resolution to be adopted by the Council.

Unfortunately, due to limited funds the number of funded participants is limited to approximately 21 participants, including representatives of the organizers. These participants are selected on the basis of their active participation in the WCIP process, knowledge of Indigenous Peoples' rights and issues and experience working in the UN system, including the process for the original establishment of the EMRIP in 2006-2007, or engagement with the EMRIP, as well as endorsement by their peoples, organization, institution, community and/or region. However, the meeting is open for additional self-funded participants, but the organizers won't cover any cost related to their participation and they will have to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

Funded participants will be selected by the organizers in consultation with indigenous peoples' organizations in their respective regions.

Preliminary program of work:

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| 3 March 2015 (10 am - 6 pm):    | Meeting of representatives of Indigenous Peoples; overall discussions on follow-up of the WCIP.                  |
| 4 March 2015 (10 am – 6 pm):    | Meeting of representatives of Indigenous Peoples; discussions on follow-up of OP28 of the WCIP Outcome Document. |
| 5 March 2015 (10 am- 6 pm):     | Meeting of Indigenous Peoples, Member States and OHCHR; follow-up of the WCIP.                                   |
| 6 March 2015 (To be confirmed): | Time set aside for possible other meetings, including a possible meeting with the OHCHR.                         |

Location: Club Suisse de la Presse  
Route de Ferney 106, 1202  
Geneva, Switzerland

If needed, simultaneous translation will be provided in English and Spanish.

If you have any questions about the open-ended meeting, please send us an email at [LGA@iwgia.org](mailto:LGA@iwgia.org) , and we will be happy to forward it to the organizers.

Yours sincerely,



Lola García-Alix  
International Human Rights Advocacy Program  
IWGIA