Toward the 26th Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government

1ST MEETING OF IBERO-AMERICAN HIGH AUTHORITIES ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

IBERO-AMERICAN ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Ibero-American Action Plan for the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (hereinafter Action Plan) contributes to the fulfillment of their rights, promoting common objectives and coordinated planning between national authorities, indigenous peoples (with engagement from indigenous women and youth), and regional and global organizations present in the region.

With a rights-based approach, the Action Plan is envisioned as a qualitative leap in planning that makes it possible to address issues on the regional agenda and pertaining to each member state, with objectives and specific actions to achieve them, prioritizing intercultural dialogue, direct collaboration and the self-development of indigenous peoples.

In this sense, it is an effort toward joint concertation, with noteworthy contributions made by representatives of states and indigenous peoples’ organizations that participated in the Subregional Meetings held in Panama (2017) and Lima (2018).

The Action Plan should be considered part of the Iximuleu Declaration, which was approved within the framework of the 1st Meeting of Ibero-American High Authorities and contains agreements taken into account in order to support the fulfillment of the Plan.

Background

International progress in indigenous peoples’ rights, and the realization that most countries in the region have specific laws to protect rights and fight racial and ethnic discrimination, have been insufficient to achieve the changes needed. Although some countries have made efforts to implement effective policies, on the whole, indigenous people continue to feel the effects of historical injustice, such as land depossession; social, cultural, economic, and political assimilation; the repression and criminalization of rights defenders; and violations of and inequality in their access to justice.

It was this realization of the gap between legislation and reality that led the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (2014) to request that member states adopt, in cooperation and consultation with indigenous peoples, country-level measures to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and define and implement action plans, strategies or other national measures, as appropriate, to this effect.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), which includes the Sustainable Development Goals, contains commitments by United Nations member states to implement human rights, end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change. These aspects are directly linked to the rights of indigenous peoples. Keeping in mind these commitments, in the Second Meeting of
the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (2015) for the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus, states agreed to continue to move forward with the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples through priority and concrete actions to this effect.

The states of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters, which establishes that each state shall guarantee a safe and favorable environment in which people, groups, and organizations that promote and defend human rights in environmental matters may act free from threats, restrictions, and insecurity (Costa Rica, 2018).

Considering these global agreements, among others, the Resolution of the 14th General Assembly of the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, FILAC (2017) mandated the implementation of a process leading to the preparation and adoption of an Ibero-American Action Plan for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples, and which incorporates the agreements and commitments made by member states.

**Objectives of the Action Plan**

**General Objective**

The strategic objective is to generate favorable conditions for the fulfillment of indigenous peoples’ individual and collective rights, with an intercultural, intergenerational and gender equality approach.

**Specific objectives and outcomes**

Three specific objectives have been established in order to achieve this general objective, each with its corresponding main outcomes.

**Specific objective 1**

To adjust national regulatory and institutional frameworks to international standards for indigenous peoples’ rights.

*Outcomes:*

- National institutional frameworks and legislation adjusted to international standards.
- National plans and public policies implemented based on international standards, with special regard to the rights of indigenous women and youth.
- Public policy monitoring and assessment systems that incorporate indicators and goals consistent with indigenous peoples’ rights according to international standards.

**Specific objective 2**

To include the perspective of indigenous peoples, with special regard to women and young people, in national plans for the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
Outcomes:

- The planning and implementation of SDGs incorporate the vision, goals, and indicators that reflect the true situation of indigenous peoples.
- The planning and implementation of SDGs incorporate specific goals and indicators relating to indigenous women, youth, and children.
- Indigenous people engage fully and are consulted in a free, prior, and informed manner in monitoring and assessment actions in the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
- National development plans have been designed with engagement from indigenous peoples.

Specific objective 3

To establish permanent mechanisms for full and effective participation, dialogue, and consultation between states and indigenous peoples.

Outcomes:

- Appropriate political and institutional conditions are created to provide an environment for participation, dialogue, and consultation between the state and indigenous peoples.
- Dialogue processes between states and indigenous peoples are strengthened and developed to allow indigenous peoples to exercise their collective rights.
- Within the framework of intercultural dialogue, concrete initiatives are encouraged that draw from indigenous peoples’ priorities and promote development with identity.
- Indigenous peoples broaden their relationships with each other, states, international organizations and cooperation agencies, with a focus on South-South cooperation for development.

Specific objective 4

To visibilize and strengthen the full and effective participation of indigenous women in the creation of public policies specially directed at addressing and preventing the various forms of violence they are victims of.

Outcomes:

- National programs are formed with the technical and budgetary capacity to address, in particular, policies to prevent and address the various violations of indigenous women’s rights (racism, discrimination, criminalization, human trafficking, land dispossession, forced displacement, worker exploitation, lack of access to justice).
- Promotion of mechanisms that generate statistical data disaggregated by gender, cultural identity, and age.
Implementation of the Action Plan

The Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) is responsible for designing and monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan. To this effect, it provides technical assistance to states and indigenous peoples for the implementation, systematization and assessment of work, and the dissemination of its main outcomes and impacts. At a national level, the implementation and monitoring mechanisms should include joint participation from indigenous peoples and state representatives.

The design, monitoring and assessment of the Action Plan is regional in nature, yet also requires concerted national plans between state authorities and indigenous peoples in each country, in accordance with prevailing specific situations, priorities that may be agreed, and the allocation of human and material resources, which will be reflected in development policies and national budgets.

As part of the implementation process, the Action Plan must be associated with and linked to, with synergies created if appropriate, other national and regional efforts sharing similar objectives, such as the Plan of Action of the Organization of American States for the implementation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, the initiatives within the Central American Integration System (SICA), and actions promoted by CELAC; or global efforts such as the Green Climate Fund, amongst others.

An appropriate internal and external communication strategy for the objectives pursued will go hand-in-hand with the different stages of the Action Plan, in order to raise awareness and facilitate its appropriation and the dissemination of activities and outcomes achieved.

Input from international organizations such as the UN and its specialized agencies, OAS, ECLAC, amongst others, in addition to academic entities and cooperation funds, are of the utmost importance to ensure an appropriate implementation of the Action Plan and achieve the objectives contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other international standards. In particular, FILAC will boost technical support and the construction of partnerships with ECLAC, FAO, PAHO, UN Women, IFAD, ILO, and other relevant United Nations organizations for the implementation and monitoring of the Regional Plan within the scope of its mandates.

The Ibero-American General Secretariat will promote the coordination of indigenous peoples at the Ibero-American Conference and will provide support to FILAC in implementing the Action Plan within the framework of the Ibero-American Summits and preparing the annual and assessment reports planned.
Roadmap

The implementation of the Action Plan is envisioned over a ten-year horizon (2018-2028), with short, medium, and long-term actions, outputs, outcomes, and budgets.

In 2018, progress is to be made on the outputs that provide the foundations to set up the Action Plan.

Among other aspects, a detailed design of the Action Plan must be completed; national mechanisms must be created for dialogue and concertation to agree on national plans and their implementation; work must begin on baseline studies, which will serve as a basis to establish working guidelines and determine the applicable specific areas/topics and the goals and indicators to be used; cooperation agreements must be entered into with international organizations interested in supporting the implementation of the Action Plan, and which may provide relevant inputs for the Plan; and a communication strategy must be designed and implemented for the dissemination and monitoring of the Action Plan.

In 2019 and 2020, the content of the Plan will continue to be implemented and the first report is to be submitted to one of the organizations of the Ibero-American Conference in 2020. This practice will continue in subsequent Summits.

Member states will present developments and challenges noted in implementing the Action Plan in the sessions of the indigenous and intergovernmental consultative meetings of FILAC.

In 2022 the first assessment will be conducted, and the Plan will be adjusted for the following stage of implementation based on the results.

Progress in implementing the Action Plan will be shared publicly by preparing and disseminating reports. To this effect, the methodology for quantitative and qualitative data collection will be determined and the necessary analyses performed.