**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**UNESCO’s contribution to the Item 5 - United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Interactive dialogue with UNPFII, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and members of the UN Treaty Bodies**

**17th session, EMRIP - 9 July 2024**

* The impact of media is growing in everyone's life. **Media is essential for public deliberation and to ensure the free expression of thoughts and ideas**, and for raising awareness and inspiring action to address multiple challenges.
* It is in recognition of the growing impact of media and in connection with the Article 16 of the UNDRIP that UNESCO took immediate action to follow up on the **recommendation of the UN Permanent Forum adopted in 2023** to conduct a study on Indigenous Peoples and the Media.
* The **United Nations and the Human Rights Council adopted resolutions[[1]](#endnote-2)** in 2023 recalling the importance of developing free, pluralistic and independent media.
* In 2023, UNESCO set up a **working group**. Throughout 2023 and 2024, UNESCO organized **a series of consultations** with Indigenous Peoples, UN system entities, the media sector, and civil society.
* UNESCO thanks **Mr Francisco Cali Tzay, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples**, for his support and direct involvement; and **Ms Valmaine Toki, Vice Chair of the EMRIP**, for her participation in the last meeting.
* UNESCO and partners **completed the literature review and prepared the methodological framework** to be used in the study.
* UNESCO is finalising **a global survey** to collect evidence-based data for the study from Indigenous media and non-Indigenous media. We look forward to your help in disseminating this survey over the coming months.
* As part of the consultative process, UNESCO will host a meeting with Indigenous media during the **Indigenous Media Conference in Oklahoma City**, USA, on 25 July 2024.
* In November 2024, UNESCO will hold **a meeting of experts** in Paris to formulate strategic recommendations for future action.
* UNESCO welcomes the draft decision of UNPFII proposed for adoption of the ECOSOC, which **invites UNESCO to present the study at the 24th session** in 2025. Thank you.
1. (UNGA 78/189; HRC 54/12) [↑](#endnote-ref-2)