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Online Forum: Integration of Article 8(j) and provisions related to indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention and its Protocols

The [Convention on Biological Diversity \(CBD\)](#) recognizes the dependency of indigenous peoples and local communities on biological diversity and their unique role in conserving life on Earth. This recognition is also included in the CBD's Protocols.

The [Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity \(SCBD\)](#) and the [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), through [Equator Connect](#) of Equator Initiative, in collaboration with the [International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity \(IIFB\)](#) and the [Indigenous Women's Network on Biodiversity \(IWNB\)](#), have the pleasure to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, international organizations, other relevant organizations and interested stakeholders to participate in this Online Forum.

The aim is to have an initial exchange of views and information, as appropriate, on:

1. Possible objectives to be considered to achieve an effective integration in the work of the subsidiary bodies on matters of direct relevance to indigenous peoples and local communities, and to enable full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention;
2. Possible elements of a programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions as part of the post-2020 biodiversity framework; and
3. Possible institutional arrangements, lessons learned and pros and cons of current arrangements.

Against this background, the Online Forum will focus on the objectives and elements for the future work, under the Convention and its Protocols, related to traditional knowledge, customary sustainable use of biodiversity, indigenous peoples and local communities, collective action, safeguards, access and benefit-sharing for the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, among others; and on the institutional arrangements needed to implement this work as part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. More information on the Online Forum is available at <https://www.cbd.int/tk/future.shtml>.

The Online Forum will take place on Thursday, 19 February 2019 at the following times:

- **English:** 8:00-10:00 am, Eastern Daylight Time /New York
- **French:** 11:00-1:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time /New York
- **Spanish:** 2:00-4:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time /New York

The outcomes will be considered in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) at its eleventh meeting in late 2019, for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting in 2020. The outcomes will complement the compilation of views from Parties, Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant international organizations and interested stakeholders on the above mentioned topics, to be submitted to the Secretariat by 15 March 2019.

REGISTER!

SPEAKERS



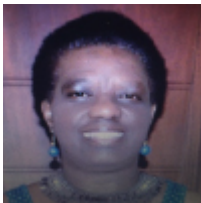
Mr. John Scott is an indigenous descendant from North Eastern Australia. He is Senior Programme Officer for Traditional Knowledge and focal point for indigenous peoples and local communities at the [CBD Secretariat](#). Mr Scott has a background in education, social policy, law, indigenous rights and traditional knowledge. He was Aboriginal Education Advisor; CEO for Aboriginal Programs; Deputy Director for the [School of Indigenous Studies at James Cook University](#), Manager of the Cultural Unit with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Indigenous Human Rights Officer with the [United Nations High Commission on Human Rights](#), and Social Affairs Officer at the Secretariat of the [United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#). Mr. Scott has a Diploma in Secondary Teaching, a Graduate Diploma in Aboriginal Education, and a Master of (Indigenous) Legal Studies – International Indigenous Rights and Constitutional Law Reform.



Joji Cariño has been an active educator and advocate on indigenous peoples human rights and traditional knowledge at the community, national and international levels. She is an experienced environment and development educator. She is also a researcher, journalist and writer on human rights, environment and development. Ms. Cariño is a senior Policy Advisor for the [Forest Peoples Programme](#) (FPPS.)



Lucy Mulenkei is a Maasai woman from Kenya who began her activism as a broadcast journalist on issues related to environment and development. She is currently the Executive Director of the [Indigenous Information Network](#) and co-founder of the [Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network](#). Ms. Mulenkei has been involved in processes pertaining to the CBD, the Nagoya Protocol, the [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#), the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Commission on Sustainable Development.



Malta Qwathekana is a Senior Policy Adviser, International Advisory Services, for the [Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa](#). She coordinates and manages South Africa's participation in the CBD related activities, meetings, conferences and national implementation. She is also responsible for other biodiversity related MEAs such as the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) and its daughter agreements as well as the Ramsar Convention on wetlands.



Danika Littlechild is a Cree lawyer living and working in Ermineskin Cree Nation in Maskwacis in Alberta (Canada). Danika works with Indigenous Peoples, nationally and internationally on issues pertaining to Indigenous rights, lands, environment, water, health and other matters. Danika served as Co-Chair of the [Indigenous Circle of Experts under Pathway to Canada Target 1](#). Ms. Littlechild serves as consulting legal counsel with

the [International Indian Treaty Council](#), and an advisor to the [Assembly of First Nations Environment and Water](#) departments, and member of the Steering Committee of [Indigenous Climate Action](#).



Pernilla Malmer is Senior Advisor at [SwedBio](#) at [Stockholm Resilience Centre](#), in the nexus of biodiversity, human rights, and sustainable development, linking local to global scales, and practice to policy and science. A particular focus for her work is dialogues and methods for working with equity across knowledge systems, with usefulness for all involved. She holds extensive experiences from national and international policy processes related to biodiversity and ecosystem governance, such as the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (CBD) and the [Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#) (IPBES), in particular related to traditional knowledge.



Marina von Weissenberg is a Senior Ministerial Adviser at the [Finnish Ministry of the Environment](#), Department of the Natural Environment/Biodiversity. Ms. von Weissenberg has been working in different positions in the Ministry of Environment since 1996. Ms. von Weissenberg is the National focal point (NFP) for both the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) for Finland. She was CBD Bureau Member in 2000-2001 for Finland representing EU and now she is the SBSTTA Bureau Member 2018-2020.

About Equator Connect

[Equator Connect](#) is a community of practice that connects a variety of stakeholders through an interactive platform to share best practices, resources, successes, and challenges faced by local communities and indigenous peoples through UNDP's [Equator Initiative](#).

[Equator Initiative](#) brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.

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