


AFRICAN UNION		UNION AFRICAINE
الاتحاد الأفريقي African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights		UNIÃO AFRICANA Commission Africaine des Droits de l'Homme & des Peuples
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Final Communiqué of the Exchange Workshop on Indigenous Peoples' Rights Between the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

1. The Exchange Workshop on Indigenous Peoples' Rights Between the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, was organized by the African Commission's Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities (the Working Group) in collaboration with the International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), in Banjul, The Gambia, from 5 to 6 April 2013.
2. The Exchange Workshop was attended by Prof. James Anaya, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples', Ms. Rita Izsák, UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues, Commissioner Soyata Maiga, Chairperson of the Working Group, Commissioner Pacifique Manirakiza, member of the Working Group, Mr. Antti Korkeakivi, Chief of Indigenous Peoples and Minority Section at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Elizabeth Abi-Mershed, Assistant Executive Secretary to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Mr. Richard Gadi, Human Rights Advocacy Officer at the Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact. The Exchange Workshop was also attended by members of the Working Group, representatives of indigenous peoples and organizations from Asia, Africa and Europe, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the African Union Commission and higher learning institutions.

3. The Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Commissioner Catherine Dupe Atoki, briefly graced the occasion to welcome participants, and reiterated the African Commission's commitment to the promotion and enhancement of indigenous peoples rights.
4. A total of twenty-two (22) delegates representing two (2) UN Special Mechanism Procedures, three (3) UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, seven (7) the Working Group, one (1) Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, one (1) African Union Commission, five (5) Asian indigenous peoples and organizations, two (2) African indigenous organizations, two (2) European indigenous organizations, and one (1) higher learning institution.
5. The main objective of the Exchange Workshop was sharing of experiences among the three regional human rights mechanisms and that of the UN systems, and lay the foundation for future regular and formalized collaboration and cooperation among them. In view of this objective, various issues pertinent to the topic were discussed including:
 - ❖ The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and indigenous peoples in Africa with a particular focus on group rights and indigenous peoples' rights;
 - ❖ The African Commission's Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities: Establishment, mandate and activities
 - ❖ The Inter-American Human Rights System and indigenous peoples' rights;
 - ❖ The African Commission and the implementation of the Endorois ruling;
 - ❖ Exemplary decisions of the Inter-American Commission and Court on indigenous peoples' rights and their implementation;
 - ❖ The ASEAN Human Rights Declaration and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights: its mandate, planned activities, and its position on indigenous peoples' rights ; and

- ❖ Collaboration between the three regional human rights mechanisms, and the importance of collaboration between regional mechanisms and the UN system
6. After a rich and engaging dialogue among representatives of the three regional mechanisms, indigenous peoples organizations, and the UN Special Procedures mechanisms represented, it was agreed to enhance collaboration and partnership in the following areas:
- Sharing of comparable best practices, information, data and knowledge;
 - Undertaking of joint activities targeted towards capacity enhancement, knowledge generation and awareness raising;
 - Synchronizing efforts to ensure compliance of states with international/regional human rights norms and standards relevant to the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples;
 - Participating in each others activities;
 - Establishing a platform for regular engagement among the three regional mechanisms and the UN system in relation to indigenous peoples issues;
 - Enhancing the technical capacity of indigenous peoples and stakeholders in the three regions to ensure effective implementation of decisions/recommendations of regional and UN human rights mechanisms relevant to indigenous peoples;
 - Develop joint collaborative strategy for increasing implementation by states of the recommendations of regional and UN human rights mechanisms relevant to indigenous peoples;
 - Enhancing dialogue with the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights on indigenous peoples' issues; and
 - Collaboration aimed at making the mechanisms of the respective systems more accessible to indigenous peoples, and making their work better known by the wider public.

Done in Banjul, The Gambia, on 6 April 2013