

ECOSOC Decision 2001/316

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 43rd plenary meeting, on 26 July 2001, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2000/22 of 28 July, in which it established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, decided:

(a) To convene the first annual session of the Forum at United Nations Headquarters from 6 to 17 May 2002, without prejudice to any future venue of the Forum;

(b) That the election of the eight government expert members of the Forum would reflect the distribution of seats among the regional groups, as follows, with due regard for the distribution of indigenous people among the countries of each of the regional groups:

- (i) One seat for African States;
- (ii) One seat for Asian States;
- (iii) One seat for Eastern European States;
- (iv) One seat for Latin American and Caribbean States;
- (v) One seat for Western European and other States;
- (vi) Three seats to rotate among the five regional groups in accordance with the following pattern:

| <i>Election 1</i> | <i>Election 2</i> | <i>Election 3</i> | <i>Election 4</i> | <i>Election 5</i> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Latin America and Caribbean | Africa | Western Europe and other | Eastern Europe | Asia |
| Western Europe and other | Eastern Europe | Asia | Latin America and Caribbean | Africa |
| Asia | Latin America and Caribbean | Africa | Western Europe and other | Eastern Europe |

This election method is without prejudice to the evaluation of the functioning of the Forum five years after its establishment, as foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22;

(c) To hold the first elections and appointments to the Forum at an appropriate time to be announced by the President of the Council but not later than 15 December 2001;

(d) To urge the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session to take action on the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 in order to secure, within existing resources, an adequately funded and well-functioning Forum that reflects its broad mandate, and in this context recalls paragraph 6 of Council resolution 2000/22;

(e) To request the Secretary-General to seek information from Governments, non-governmental organizations, indigenous people's organizations, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and all existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous issues, including the Working Group on

Indigenous Populations, as a basis for holding the review mandated in paragraph 8 of Council resolution 2000/22 as soon as possible and not later than the substantive session of 2003 of the Council.