



RCA
REDE DE COOPERAÇÃO
AMAZÔNICA
integrada por AMAAIAC, AMIM, Apina,
ATIX, CPI-AC, CIR, CTI, FOIRN, Hutakara,
Iepé, ISA, OGM, OPIAC e Wyty-Catë



 **Fastenaktion**
Ending hunger together

Supervisory Body Art. 6.4
UN Climate Change Secretariate
UNFCCC

October 2023

Response to the Call for input 2023 - Meaningful engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Article 6.4 mechanism

Dear Sir or Madame

As per call for input shared on the Supervisory Body Webpage regarding Meaningful engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Article 6.4 mechanism, the public is invited to share thoughts and reflections.

Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (RCA), a Brazilian network composed of 10 indigenous organisations from Amazon and 4 NGOs that working together on indigenous rights and climate issues, Operação Amazônia Nativa (OPAN), the first civil society organization focused on the rights of indigenous peoples founded in Brazil, and Fastenaktion, a Swiss development organization with presence in 14 countries, are happy to follow this invitation.

Concretely, we reflected on the following guiding questions:

- a) What mode of communication could facilitate better dialogue between the Supervisory Body and Indigenous communities?
- b) How would you envision meaningful long-term engagement and active participation from Indigenous Peoples and local communities on the work of the Supervisory Body and the mechanism?

Having in mind our experience of working with Indigenous Peoples in the UNFCCC spaces, we would like to share the following considerations regarding these guiding questions:

1. **We suggest the Supervisory Body (SB) to examining the establishment of a fixed engagement process with the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)** (<https://www.iipfcc.org/>), so that there is a continuous process of dialogue and consultation on all matters treated under the SB that are of relevance to Indigenous Peoples (IP). The IIPFCC is the most important representation of indigenous peoples. It represents the members of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus, who attend the official UNFCCC COPs and the intersessional sessions of the SBSTA/SBI bodies. It is therefore well suited for facilitating dialogue between the Supervisory Body and the indigenous communities.
2. The Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP FWG) is a constituted body under the UNFCCC mandated to strengthen and facilitate exchange on the knowledge, technologies, practices, and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to climate change (<https://lcipp.unfccc.int/>). It is the interface between local communities (LC) and indigenous peoples (IP) on one side and parties on the other side. As such, the LCIPP FWG strengthens the participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in UNFCCC spaces. It is, therefore, by mandate, an important interlocutor of the Supervisory Body on all matters

of relevance to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Therefore, **we invite the SB to also establish a fixed engagement process with the LCIPP**. For example by offering online and on-site exchanges throughout the year, so that representatives from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities can address doubts and recommendations regarding the function of the A6.4 mechanism to the SB on these occasions. These sessions could be held during Subsidiary Body meetings in Bonn and during the COPs in order to optimize costs.

3. Sufficient time for preparing meetings as well as language barriers are important challenges for Indigenous Peoples to actively participate in UNFCCC spaces, also in regard to the Supervisory Body. Therefore, **we invite the SB to schedule meetings/activities with relevance to IP and LC well in advance and to provide interpretation/translation to the most spoken languages**.
4. Carbon market activities in the past have had multiple implications for Indigenous Peoples. This has resulted in various publications on how to best engage with Indigenous Peoples when considering carbon market activities as well as on how to mitigate risks associated with such activities, [like this one](#). **We invite the SB to (a) establish specific safeguards for A6.4 activities to prevent IP/LC rights' violations and (b) to establish a sort of "inbox" into which aforementioned publication can be shared**. Such publications should be taken into account when developing IP safeguards together with representatives from the IIPFCC (see first point above).
5. In relation to the 4th point above. Developing such safeguarding measures will demand **research about the existence and the implementation of means of self-governance and consultation** regarding indigenous peoples. The right for free, prior and informed consultation has been recognized by the 169th Convention of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) since 1989. Since then, IPs have been engaged in building their own instruments for implementing this right. In Brazil, according to the [Protocol Observatory](#), there are nearly a hundred consultation protocols already published, where the IPs and the LCs present their governance systems and how they want to be consulted in a culturally adapted way. These are examples of documents that should be studied by A6.4 activity proponents prior to engaging with IPs and LCs in order to assure the respect of safeguards. See more at: <https://rca.org.br/consulta-previa-e-protocolo/> and <https://observatorio.direitosocioambiental.org/>.
6. Finally, we commend the SB's efforts to establish appeal and grievance processes for A6.4 activities. If existing, this will allow the SB to receive at any time denouncements from IP about rights' violation in the context of the implementation of A6.4 activities. **When establishing appeal and grievance procedures, we invite the SB to take into account the specificities of IP communities**. Among others, that they often have budgetary constraints and thus might not be capable of paying the fee schedule for grievances discussed at SB008 meeting in Bonn. And that English is not spoken in many IP communities around the globe and thus the importance that other languages than English are permitted. In short, the processes should be designed in a manner so that IP can file grievances as independently from third parties as possible. Furthermore, we invite the SB to review after some time what type of grievances have been received in order to improve regulations in the scope of A6.4 activities.

We thank you for considering our comments and are available for any questions.

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