ACHPR

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

Human Rights, Our Collective Responsibility

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

THE VOICE OF THE INDIGENOUS

Newsletter of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa (WGIPM)

THEME:
Revitalizing Indigenous Peoples and Minority Rights Discourse in Africa

INAUGURAL EDITION
to be launched around the October/November 2026 Session of the African Commission

SUBMISSION EMAIL
magaref@africanunion.org
SUBJECT: *The Voice of the Indigenous – Submission*

Share your knowledge. Amplify your voice. Advance our rights together.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:
31 AUGUST 2026

Please refer to the Contributor Guidelines before submitting your contribution.

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GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

THE VOICE OF THE INDIGENOUS: A Newsletter of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa (WGIPM)

1. ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The Voice of the Indigenous is the official newsletter of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa (WGIPM) of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

The newsletter serves as a platform for sharing information, experiences, research, analysis, jurisprudential developments, and community perspectives relating to the rights, cultures, livelihoods, and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples and minority communities in Africa.

The publication seeks to promote dialogue, visibility, knowledge exchange, awareness, and documentation of developments relating to Indigenous Peoples and minorities across Africa. It also seeks to amplify Indigenous and minority voices while promoting informed dialogue on issues relevant to the Working Group's mandate.

2. WHO MAY CONTRIBUTE?

Contributions are welcome from:

- Indigenous Peoples and community representatives;
- Minority communities and their representative organizations;
- Human rights defenders;
- Researchers and academics;
- National Human Rights Institutions;
- Civil society organizations;
- Development partners;
- ACHPR Special Mechanisms;
- Legal practitioners; and
- Students and young professionals working on relevant issues.
- Other individuals with a demonstrated interest or expertise in issues relating to Indigenous Peoples, minorities, and vulnerable communities in Africa.

3. TYPES OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editorial Team welcomes submissions in the following categories:

- **Feature Articles:** Analytical articles addressing legal, policy, social, cultural, environmental, development, governance, or human rights issues affecting Indigenous Peoples and minorities.

- **Commentaries and Opinion Pieces:** Short reflections on emerging issues, policy developments, advocacy initiatives, or current debates.

- **Country and Regional Updates:** Updates on significant developments, achievements, challenges, legislation, policies, court decisions, advocacy initiatives, or community experiences.

- **Community Voices:** Personal stories, testimonies, experiences, and perspectives from Indigenous Peoples and minority communities.

- **Jurisprudence and Legal Developments:** Reviews and analyses of decisions, laws, policies, and legal developments relevant to Indigenous Peoples and minorities.

- **Interviews:** Interviews with community leaders, elders, experts, activists, policy-makers, researchers, or human rights practitioners.

- **Book and Publication Reviews:** Reviews of recent publications relevant to the mandate of the Working Group.

- **Photo Essays and Indigenous Gallery:** Photographs accompanied by short explanatory texts highlighting Indigenous cultures, livelihoods, traditions, achievements, and human rights concerns.

4. WORD LIMITS

- Feature Articles: 1,000–1,800 words
- Commentaries and Opinion Pieces: 800–1,500 words
- Country and Regional Updates: 500–1,000 words
- Community Voices: 500–1,000 words
- Jurisprudence and Legal Developments: 800–1,500 words
- Interviews: 1,000–1,500 words
- Book Reviews: 500–800 words
- Photo Essays: 200–500 words accompanied by photographs and captions

5. LANGUAGE

Submissions may be made in English or French. Contributions may also be submitted in an African Indigenous language, provided they are accompanied by a translation into English or French.

6. FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

Submissions should: -

- Be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format;
- Use Times New Roman, 12-point font;
- Use 1.5-line spacing;
- Include page numbers; and
- Include references and sources where appropriate using APA (7th Edition) style.
- Authors should ensure that all factual information is accurate and that sources are properly acknowledged.

7. AUTHOR INFORMATION

Each submission should include:

- Full name;
- Organization or affiliation (where applicable);
- Country;
- Email address; and
- A short biography.

However, where a contributor has legitimate concerns relating to safety, security, confidentiality, or the protection of personal or community interests, the contributor may request that the contribution be published anonymously or under a pseudonym. Such requests shall be considered by the Editorial Team on a case-by-case basis. In such cases, the contributor's identity shall nevertheless be disclosed confidentially to the Editorial Team for verification purposes and shall not be disclosed publicly without the contributor's prior consent.

8. EDITORIAL REVIEW PROCESS

All submissions are subject to editorial review by the Editorial Team. The Editorial Team may:

- Accept a submission as submitted;
- Request revisions from the author;
- Edit for clarity, style, grammar, formatting, and length; or
- Decline submissions that do not meet the objectives, standards, or scope of the publication.

The Editorial Team may consult external reviewers or subject-matter experts where necessary. The Editorial Team reserves the right to make reasonable editorial changes while preserving the substance and integrity of the contribution.

Publication of any contribution remains subject to the editorial and publication procedures established by the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa.

9. EDITORIAL STANDARDS

Contributors are encouraged to ensure that submissions:

- Respect the dignity, rights, and cultures of all peoples and communities;

- Promote constructive dialogue and engagement;
- Are factually accurate and evidence-based;
- Avoid discriminatory, offensive, or inflammatory language;
- Respect cultural sensitivities and community protocols; and
- Comply with applicable ethical and professional standards.

10. COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICATION

Authors retain copyright in their contributions. However, by submitting a contribution for publication, authors authorize the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa (WGIPM) and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) to publish, reproduce, translate, distribute, and disseminate the contribution through the newsletter and related ACHPR publications and communication platforms. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission for any photographs, illustrations, quotations, or other third-party materials included in their submissions.

11. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTENT

The Voice of the Indigenous is published under the auspices of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa (WGIPM) of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Contributors are responsible for the accuracy of facts, data, references, quotations, permissions, and other information contained in their submissions.

12. SUBMISSION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions should be submitted through the submission channel indicated in the relevant Call for Contributions. The Editorial Team reserves the right to determine the edition in which an accepted contribution will appear.

For inquiries, contributors may contact the Editorial Team through the contact details provided in the Call for Contributions.