The 16th Session of the Permanent Forum committed to revisit how earlier recommendations related to conservation of nature and indigenous peoples’ human rights have been implemented. This side event will explore how human rights protection can and should be complementary to safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems, and how this provides a foundation for enabling Indigenous peoples and conservation organisations to be strategic allies, rather than be set in opposition to each other.

Presentations will include the experiences from the Sengwer people in Kenya, who face violence for defending their territories and rights against external biodiversity conservation initiatives, and a report back on the outcomes and suggested ways forward from the Global Dialogue on Human Rights and Biodiversity Conservation (Eldoret, Kenya, November 2017). Brian Keane, co-author of the UNPFII 17 Study examining conservation and indigenous peoples’ human rights will present its proposals. The UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, will conclude the session with her analysis of challenges, opportunities and ways forward based on her long experience and commitment to the subject.
**Programme**

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| **• UNPFII Study to examine conservation and indigenous peoples’ human rights** |
| Brian Keane  
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| **• The Convention on Biological Diversity, human rights and governance for the post-2020 biodiversity targets** |
| John Scott  
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| **• Indigenous and local knowledge for enhanced livelihoods and secured rights to territories and resources** |
| Joji Carino  
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| **• Way forward: Human rights, Indigenous peoples and conservation** |
| Vicky Tauli Corpuz  
UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples |
| **Open discussion** |
| **Wrapping up and conclusion by the co-chairs** |

**Key references**

- UNPFII, Study to examine conservation and indigenous peoples’ human rights.
- Whakatane Mechanism

*On the header picture: The biocultural landscape of the Ogiek, Kenya. Many trees of the natural forest are maintained and provide diverse contributions to the livelihoods of the Ogiek. There is a pressure from the government and business sector to replace this landscape with monocultures of non-native species (for example, conifers) to provide monetary returns, and deplete the biodiversity that sustains the bees and much else on which the Ogiek depend.*

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