



Специальный консультативный статус
при Экономическом и Социальном
Совете ООН

NGO in Special Consultative Status with
the Economic and Social Council
of the United Nations

Постоянный участник
Арктического совета

Permanent Participant
of the Arctic Council

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№ 97

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent statement of Continued Support

March, 30, 2020

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that RUSSIAN ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE NORTH (RAIPON) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Grigorii Ledkov,
President of the RAIPON

Part II. Description of Actions

RAIPON is a large non-governmental organization, which includes 33 regional organizations that bring together representatives of 40 Indigenous Peoples. RAIPON celebrates its thirtieth anniversary in 2020. RAIPON was founded in March 1990 at the I Congress of the Peoples of the North.

RAIPON has special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and is an active participant in the sessions of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. RAIPON is one of the first three Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council.

The main goals of the RAIPON are:

- protection of the rights and interests of the Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation;
- promoting the spiritual, cultural, social and economic development of the Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation;
- protection of the rights of the Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation to a favorable environment, reliable information about its condition.

Current areas of activity

- During the period under review, there was active legislative work of the RAIPON aimed at protecting the rights of the Indigenous Peoples using an analysis of the law enforcement and judicial practices;
- Conduct and participate in the work of international, inter-regional, regional legal seminars, scientific conferences and other events;
- Holding conferences for regional branches of the RAIPON;
- Provides information and consultative support to local communities of the Indigenous Peoples.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

RAIPON has been monitoring and analyzing federal and regional legislation, law enforcement and judicial practices. RAIPON publishes this information on the website of the RAIPON (<http://raipon.info/activity/pravovaia-deiatelnost/>).

During the period under review, RAIPON initiated several draft legislations. Some of these legislative initiatives are as follows.

The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation adopted the draft federal law No. 785133-7 “On Amending the Federal Law “On Guarantees of the Rights of Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the Russian Federation” regarding the establishment of accounting procedures for persons belonging to Indigenous small-numbered peoples”. The bill proposes to introduce a mechanism for registering persons belonging to Indigenous Peoples based on voluntary proactively confirmation. The registration of Indigenous Peoples is not created only for the very fact of registration or a list. There is a lot of painstaking work to amend the industry legislation on fishing, hunting and other environmental and not only legislation.

In 2019, Federal Law No. 234-FZ “On Amendments to Articles 5 and 8 of the Federal Law“ On Guarantees of the Rights of Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the Russian Federation”” was adopted, which provides for the establishment of the powers of the Government of the Russian Federation to approve the Procedure for Compensation of Loss to Indigenous Peoples.

In 2018, RAIPON conducted an analysis of the provision of subsidies under Subprogram 4 “Indigenous small-numbered peoples” of the State program "Implementation of state national policy", and sent a corresponding opinion to the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation. Based on the results of the work carried out in the Rules, the criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the use of subsidies were changed. The importance of harmonizing the activities for which these funds were intended with Indigenous associations was noted.

In 2018, RAIPON amended the Federal Law of March 14, 1995 No. 33-FZ “On Specially Protected Natural Territories”. This legislative initiative of RAIPON has led to the establishment of the right of individuals living in the territory of the national park, including persons belonging to Indigenous Peoples, to remain freely and free of charge (without the need to obtain permission) in the territory of the national park.

During the period under review, RAIPON conducted 8 inter-regional legal seminars in such regions as the Primorsky Krai, the Tyva Republic, St. Petersburg, the Tyumen Region, the Murmansk Region, the Kemerovo Region. Within the framework of the seminars, the norms of legislation on the rights of Indigenous Peoples are clarified, issues of environmental conservation are discussed, legal assistance and legal advice is provided on the ground, regional law enforcement practice and issues are collected and summarized, which subsequently form the basis of the legislative activity of the RAIPON. For example, in St. Petersburg, the procedure for conducting an environmental impact assessment and the possibility of participation of Indigenous organizations in this were explained in detail. In Murmansk, an interesting workshop “Traditional knowledge: generation, transmission and protection” was held on the eve of the 18th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Seminar organizers involve experts and specialists to solve problems of interest to Indigenous Peoples. Most of the seminars are held on the basis of cooperation with such universities as, for example, the Northern (Arctic) Federal University named after M.V. Lomonosov, Tyumen State University, the Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography of the Peoples of the Far East of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Handout material is being prepared by Law and International Cooperation Department of RAIPON for each seminar, including federal and regional regulatory legal acts on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, industry legislation on hunting or fishing, and on environmental protection.

In 2018 in Moscow, RAIPON conducted **the International Introduction course “The Arctic Council and the Role of Permanent Participants”** together with the Secretariat of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic Council.

Participants and guests took part in the Parliamentary hearings “On the legislative protection of the original habitat and traditional lifestyle of the Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation”, which were held in the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.



In 2019, the already Fifth **Youth Forum of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation "Russian North"** was held. It was held in the capital of one of the northern regions of Russia — the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug.



The forum not only provided an opportunity for representatives of young people of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation to get acquainted and discuss relevant issues in the field of preserving and popularizing the culture and traditions of Indigenous small-numbered peoples, but also became a platform for discussion and establishing the foundations of long-term cooperation and determining promising directions for further activities to develop the youth movement of Indigenous Peoples. The program of the Forum included sports, interactive, cultural, educational and gaming events.

One of the most vivid domestic Russian venues of the RAIPON can be called the **"School of the Young Leader"**.

This is an educational forum of young activists of Indigenous Peoples, which is held in various cities of Russia. From more than 30 regions of the country, young leaders come to the "Young Leader School" to understand the contemporary aspects of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.



The entire program of the School of the Young Leader is aimed at improving the professional competence of young leaders of public organizations, including on issues of legislation. The educational process of the School is held in the form of lectures, trainings, master classes, including meetings with scientists, public and political figures. In the process of training, young leaders can receive consultations from leading experts on specific issues arising in the regions.

The **International exhibition “Treasures of the North. Masters and artists of Russia”** allows to get a fairly complete picture of the modern development of culture and applied art of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russia. The scale of the exhibition-fair “Treasures of the North”, the status of its participants attest to the need for its holding, confirm the importance of the event in the socio-cultural context. There are several side-events during the forum. So, in 2019, the All-Russian Scientific and Practical Conference “Languages and Culture of Indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation: Strategy for Conservation and Development”, dedicated to the International Year of Indigenous Languages, was held on the sidelines of the Exhibition.

