

Launch of the UN Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP)

On May 20 four United Nations entities have launched the UN-Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP), the first global inter-agency initiative to support country efforts to advance indigenous peoples' rights.

The launch was hosted by ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF and UNDP and it was open by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro in representation of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. Among the UNIPP Launch panelists were the UN Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Mirna Cunningham, UN Assistant Secretary General for Human Rights, Mr. Ivan Šimonović, Director of the International Labour Standards of the ILO, Ms. Cleo Doumbria-Henry, UNDP Deputy Director, Bureau for Development Policy, Mr. Douglas Gardner, and Mr. Bisrat Aklilu, the UNDP MDTF Office Executive Coordinator.

The launch took place on occasion of the 10th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (16-27 May, New York) and was webcasted live via <http://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/webcast/c/press-conferences.html>

At the launch, Ambassador Carsten Staur from the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations announced political and financial support of UNIPP by his Government.