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## **Addressee: UNESCO, Congo Basin States**

**Paragraph #76 Session #7 (2008)**

### **Full Text**

The Permanent Forum invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and relevant States of the Congo Basin to provide at the eighth session of the Forum, in 2009, specific information on the biosphere reserves project and how they will incorporate the indigenous peoples of the Congo Basin and their respective associations into the implementation of the project.

### **Comments**

UNESCO reports: The 'Network of sites of excellence for the sustainable futures of the Congo Basin' brings together local actors around designated and potential UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Central Africa to address problems of unsustainable forest management, severe poverty, and the lack of local capacity to respond to these issues. The principal project beneficiaries are local and indigenous communities of the Biosphere Reserves. The project directly benefits women and children, and builds the capacities of local organizations. Local and regional organizations played an important role in developing this proposal (See also recommendation 76, 7th session of the UN Permanent Forum).

### **Area of Work**

Environment