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Nations**

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Addressee: Member States, local authorities, UNESCO

Paragraph #36 Session #21 (2022)

Full Text

The Permanent Forum encourages Member States, local authorities and UNESCO to assist indigenous peoples in establishing working groups on language planning, development and modernization, with financial support. Furthermore, the Permanent Forum recommends that UNESCO undertake a study on best practices for language curriculum development and publicize its findings by 2024.

Comments

In the area of education, the Indigenous Languages and Education Network for Policy and Practice (ILE Network), has been formed in response to the Los Pinos [Chapoltepek] Declaration and the IDIL 2022-2032. The Global Action Plan notes that “the scope of work envisaged...is beyond the capacity of any single nation, country, stakeholder group, generation, scientific discipline, policy framework or set of actions,” and calls for global partnership to realize the IDIL 2022-2032 vision. The ILE Network aims to connect indigenous groups, Ministry of Education officials, language rights activists, technical experts, donor agencies and others to advance the sustainable inclusion of indigenous languages in formal education systems over the course of the IDIL 2022-2032. The Network will be co-convened by the Salzburg Global Seminar, SIL International and the UNESCO Bangkok Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, and will focus primarily on serving three connected agendas, depending on the context:

- Inclusion of indigenous and minority languages in multilingual education (where children still speak the language as their first/home/community/mother tongue language)
- Revitalization of indigenous languages (where intergenerational transmission of the language had been interrupted)
- Support for the linguistic aspects of preserving indigenous environmental knowledge in social and political systems (including education) to address climate change.

The ILE Network would contribute specifically to the policy and practice aspects of Outputs 1, 3, and 10 in the IDIL 2022-2032 Global Action Plan. The ILE Network takes particular inspiration from Global Action Plan Activity 1.1., which calls for the development of education policies, plans and programmes alongside legislation in line with international frameworks as part of implementing Sustainable Development Goal 4 to support mother tongue-based and multilingual education.

The Asia Pacific Multilingual Education Working Group (MLE WG)'s International Conference on Language and Education series and high-level policy forum on MLE have provided a unique opportunity for policy-makers, researchers, practitioners, and development actors to share views, good practices, and experiences, as well as to explore issues concerning the importance of MTB MLE and broader language issues in sustainable development.

Area of Work

Indigenous Languages, Education