



FILAC



FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN





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**“FILAC is the patrimony of
Indigenous Peoples and the
states of Latin America and the
Caribbean”**

DECLARATION OF THE X GENERAL ASSEMBLY, CITY OF
GUATEMALA, NOVEMBER 29 AND 30, 2012

FILAC:

25 YEARS WORKING FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) has encouraged the self-development and the promotion of rights of indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean during the last 25 years.

Since its creation, in July of 1992, FILAC has facilitated regional processes of dialogue and agreements, which have allowed important progress in the scope of the recognition, protection and promotion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples within Member States. The formation and professional development of indigenous and non-indigenous leaders and authorities; the allocation of financial resources for pre-investment or of leverage for programs and projects for indigenous peoples; the development of appropriate methodologies for the management of development with identity, are among actions we have been done.

FILAC has executed eight emblematic programs of high regional impact, such as: Conciliation processes, Indigenous Peoples Rights, Intercultural Indigenous Peoples University, Development with Identity, Indigenous Woman, Communication and Information, Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and In Risk of Extinction, and Indigenous Youth.

After 25 years, FILAC began a new period of execution, through which we seek to give a renewed impetus to its work in favor of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, modernizing and strengthening the management system to face the challenges in a efficiency and timeliness way; challenges imposed by a context that require the adoption and full implementation of the instruments in favor of the rights of indigenous peoples, such as: the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007); the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2016); the Mandates emanating from the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (2014); the UN Sustainably Development Goals. This international legal framework will help us to support regional and national processes in such way that Indigenous Peoples can exercise their full enjoyment of their rights.

I. WHAT IS FILAC?

The Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC), is an international organization of public rights created in 1992 by the II Ibero - American Summit of Chiefs of States and Government celebrated in Madrid, Spain. FILAC has the purpose to support self-development processes and promotion of rights for local communities, indigenous peoples and their organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean. For that purpose FILAC has a government body, whose functions are based on parity relations between the States and Indigenous Peoples.

In 2006, the Chiefs of States and Governments assisting to the XVI Ibero - American Summit held in Montevideo, Uruguay, decided to bet for the consolidation of FILAC, as the unique international organization specialized in the promotion of: Development with Identity; Focused towards Good Living-Living Good of Indigenous Peoples; as well as the recognition of their individual and collective rights.



“The Permanent Forum takes notice of the work of the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) as a support mechanism for the indigenous peoples. The Permanent Forum encourages the State Members to strengthen the institutional framework of FILAC and similarly in other regions of the world”.

**RECOMMENDATION Nr.32, REPORT ABOUT THE XVI PERIOD OF SESSIONS,
PERMANENT FORUM OF THE UN FOR INDIGENOUS MATTERS, DOCUMENT
E/2017/43-E/C.19/2017/11, NEW YORK – USA, APRIL 24TH TO
MAY 5TH 2017.**

“... it is an international organization constituted with the parity representation of the Indigenous Peoples and governments, with the objective to support the self-development processes of the people and indigenous organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean, recognizing the labor performed in issues of conciliation processes and dialogue between indigenous organizations and governmental sectors through national, regional and inter agencies consultative bodies”.

SPECIAL STATEMENT OF THE XXIII IBERO-AMERICAN SUMMIT
OF (FEMALE AND MALE) HEAD OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS,
OCTOBER 2013.

II. STRUCTURE

FILAC is integrated by 22 Member States:

△ 19 of Latin America and the Caribbean:

- △ Argentina
- △ Belize
- △ Bolivia
- △ Brazil
- △ Chile
- △ Colombia
- △ Costa Rica

- △ Cuba
- △ Ecuador
- △ El Salvador
- △ Guatemala
- △ Honduras
- △ México
- △ Nicaragua
- △ Panamá
- △ Paraguay

- △ Perú
- △ Uruguay
- △ Venezuela

△ 3 Extra-regional States:

- △ Belgium
- △ Spain
- △ Portugal



III. FUNCTIONING

1. Parity Structure of their government bodies

One of the main characteristics that makes FILAC unique is the parity structure of its government bodies, where Indigenous Peoples and the Governments of the Member States, are represented, with full capacities to make decisions on the evolution of the institution and its chores.

- **General Assembly:** Maximum Instance of the government, formed by governmental delegates of 22 Member States and by 18 representatives of indigenous peoples from the Member States of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Assembly gathers every two years to define policies and institutional strategies, and in extraordinary way when the circumstances call for it.
- **Directive Council:** The Governing Board is comprised of three representatives of the extra-regional States accredited to the General Assembly, government representatives of three of the Regional States, and representatives of the Indigenous Peoples of six of these same States; all of them duly accredited in the Assembly.
- **Executive Committee:** Is comprised by the Presidency, and the two Vice-Presidencies of the Directive Council, to which the last one trusts the consideration, approval and follow up of the institutional operations framed in the guidelines and plans approved by the Assembly and the Directive Council.

“For their parity composition and their facilitating vocation towards dialogue and the conciliation processes in favor of rights of Indigenous Peoples, if FILAC would not exist we should invent it”

(SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES OF FILAC, 2001)



2. Consultative Bodies

Facilitates the functioning and gather proposals and political positions which define the framework of a subsidiary bodies, called Consultative Bodies, to manage conciliation processes between Indigenous Peoples, governments and international cooperation agencies, in order to define policies and coordinate agendas in autonomous, bilateral or tri-sectorial ways.

3. Technical Secretariat of FILAC

The Technical Secretariat is formed by a highly qualified technician team, it constitutes the operative branch which is in charge for the technical and administrative management of FILAC.

The responsibility of leading and taking care of the correct functioning of this body is the Technical Secretary, who is appointed by the Directive Council, after a competitive and transparent selection process.



IV. STRATEGIC DEFINITIONS

1. Mission

Promote the Good Living – Living Good as an alternative of dignified life for the people, nationalities and indigenous communities of Latin America and the Caribbean, through the full exercise of human and collective rights, the inter culturalism as a way of coexistence, which generates the equality of opportunities and the overcoming of all forms of exclusion and domination, developing capacities to facilitate, technically and politically the processes of dialogue between States and leadership of Indigenous Peoples.

2. Vision

Indigenous Peoples are recognized and respected, in full exercise of their rights, culture and identities with solid organizations, strengthened in their administrative, technical, economic, political, social and cultural capacities through their own processes of sustainable development that, in inter cultural coexistence, they incorporate their identities in the development and the economic and democratic management of the national States of Latin America.

XI ASAMBLEA FILAC, NOVIEMBRE DE 2013

3. Principles

1. The ethnic diversity and the respect of cultural identity, as foundations of the self determination of Indigenous Peoples and the right of self-identification.
2. Respect for indigenous peoples tradition based on the acknowledgment of the ancestral associative forms that are harmonic and sensitive to nature and respectful of the Earth and the community territory.
3. The enjoyment of the contemplated benefits of the Indigenous Peoples in the general rights of the multicultural citizenship, without discrimination and in conditions that allow their free exercise and enjoyment, with the purpose to reverse the historical situation of exclusion, searching to reach satisfactory levels of development with identity, for the coming years.
4. The total respect of the human, economic, social and cultural rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. The recognition of the diversity of Indigenous Peoples – rural and urban – as a social capital that must be considered as an essential element for the development vis a vis the new risks and challenges of the globalization processes.
6. The need that ancestral ways of coexistence, association and organization of Indigenous Peoples be considered and integrated in the legal framework of the Member States.
7. Assume the wholesomeness, the complementarity, the reciprocity, the interculturalism, the consultation processes, the consensus and reconciliation, as values of Indigenous Peoples, that must guide the policies and activities of FILAC.
8. Achieve that the conciliation between Indigenous Peoples, the States and the international cooperation becomes essential component of the planning and acting of FILAC.



V. SCOPES OF ACTION

FILAC seeks to contribute for the establishment of parity relations between State and Indigenous Peoples, through which the fulfillment of their rights and inter-cultural are concretized.

For that, FILAC will work in three scopes of action :

- **Dialogue and conciliation**, for the design, adoption and implementation of public policies oriented to the rights of indigenous peoples; space in which it is expected to achieve the construction of agreements and commitments between the States and Indigenous Peoples that will allow significant advances in this field
- **Economic development with identity**, tending towards recognizing and activating within the economic system, the value of the cultural patrimony of the Indigenous Peoples; for which it will support the development of a new paradigm of economic development with identity.
- **Education for equity**, seek the strengthen the capacities of the involved actors to operate and prosper in an intercultural system, and strengthen the capacities of the indigenous peoples to influence and exercise their rights.

- **Dialogue and Conciliation**
- **Economic Development with Identity**
- **Education for Equity**





VI. FUNCTIONS

To fulfill their objectives FILAC carries out the following functions:

- Serve as an intercultural and conciliation dialogue mechanism to support the processes of self-development of the Indigenous Peoples.
- Provide assistance to the States for the formulation of public policies that benefits Indigenous Peoples.
- Fund raising, channeling and managing financial and technical resources for the implementation of projects and priority programs in order to contribute for the self-development of Indigenous Peoples.
- Respect, promote and encourage the full recognition and exercise of economic, social, cultural, political and environmental rights of Indigenous Peoples.

RESPECT

SERVE

ASSIST

CHANNEL

**“To have a useful
existence and be happy”.**

POPOL WUJ



VII. EMBLEMATIC PROGRAMS

To achieve the objectives, FILAC organizes the operations starting from the design and implementation of three Emblematic Programs:



1.

**Dialogue and
Conciliation
Program**

2.

**Economic
Development
with Identity
Program**

3.

**Education for
Equity Program**




Mayan glyph that means:
The patrimony of the people

1. Dialogue and Concertation Program

The Dialogue and Concertation Program promotes and brings support to national and international processes of dialogue whose objectives are to build agreements and commitments for the definition, adoption and implementation of public policies of parity relations, that pursue the recognition, protection and effective exercise of the individual and collective rights of the Indigenous Peoples, through the following lines of action and initiative types:

- Design, adoption and accompaniment of a Regional Action Plan for the implementation of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Design, adoption and accompaniment to the implementation of National Action Plans of Indigenous People.
- Encouragement and foster a process for the construction of agreements and commitments within framework for the implementation to the right of participation and consultation processes of Indigenous Peoples.
- Institutionalization of inter-governmental cooperation spaces.
- Strengthening of regional and sub regional indigenous networks, and increase their advocacy capacity in the design of public policies for the recognition and exercise of their rights.
- Participation and facilitation of the construction processes for agreements and commitments to encourage and execution of coordinated actions within the international arena.





2. Economic Development with Identity Program

FILAC through its Economic Development with Identity Program supports the design and implementation of processes and initiatives for the promotion of development with identity, focused in the Good Living – Living Good of the Indigenous Peoples, in coherent with the recognition, protection and promotion of the exercise of their economic, social, cultural, political and environmental rights of the people, communities and indigenous organizations; through the following guidelines and initiatives:

- The generation of knowledge and proposal design on contents, scopes and instruments focus on the development with identity, mainly focusing in the concept of Good Living – Living Good of Indigenous Peoples.
- Design and implementation of an investment framework on innovative productive processes of indigenous peoples and the reactivation of their ancestral systems.
- Framework associated with green economy.
- Promotion of the right of indigenous peoples to decent urban employment.
- Research for the empowerment of indigenous women.
- Investment framework for empowerment of indigenous youth.
- Annual awards on experiences of development with identity.
- Design and implementation of actions plans, management and investments for the protection of collective knowledge and the tangibles and intangibles patrimonies of Indigenous Peoples.



The Chakana, Andean Symbol that represent the union of the PACHA (Earth) with the HANNAN PACHA (WITH WHAT IS ABOVE).

In 2017, having 25 years of life, FILAC created the award of the Order of



which means for the Indigenous Peoples the start of a New Cycle with the rebirth of the sun, is a change of an era and appeals to the need of elevating the human consciousness to be able to join our hands, our wills and together save the planet in a continental Minga for life.

- **Education for Equity Program**

Through this program, FILAC seeks to strengthen the capacity of men and women to influence in the recognition, transformation and creation of conditions for the acknowledgement and effective exercise and the enjoyment of individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples. We promote processes of education, training, research, systematization and dissemination of knowledge, wisdom and technologies, from epistemologies and intercultural methodologies, owned by Indigenous Peoples through the following action and initiatives:

- Intercultural Indigenous University.
- Thematic interaction of the post graduated with the institutional strategy of FILAC.
- Research of strategic topics.
- Spreading of the demands of the indigenous peoples.
- Participation in academic networks.
- Articulation and collaboration with the graduates of the UII.
- Interaction and collaboration with the graduates of UII.
- Intercultural Indigenous Professorship
- Intercultural Health Training.
- Research of new forms of education and facilitation of learning processes.
- Design and implementation of systems and processes of training certification.



25

◀ THE PATRIMONY OF THE PEOPLE

◀ AIHINI NHIMRŌ

◀ INDIANA NI PRAPATIKA

◀ STII XQUIDXINUU

◀ TAITAKUNA ÑUKANCHIPA
WAKAICHISHKAKUNA

◀ NIM USILAL REEB'
LI KA TENAMIT

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