



The Role of Article 8(j) National Focal Points and how to engage with them

COOP4CBD Training session, Trondheim

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National Focal Point

COP8 2006: Terms of reference for national focal points

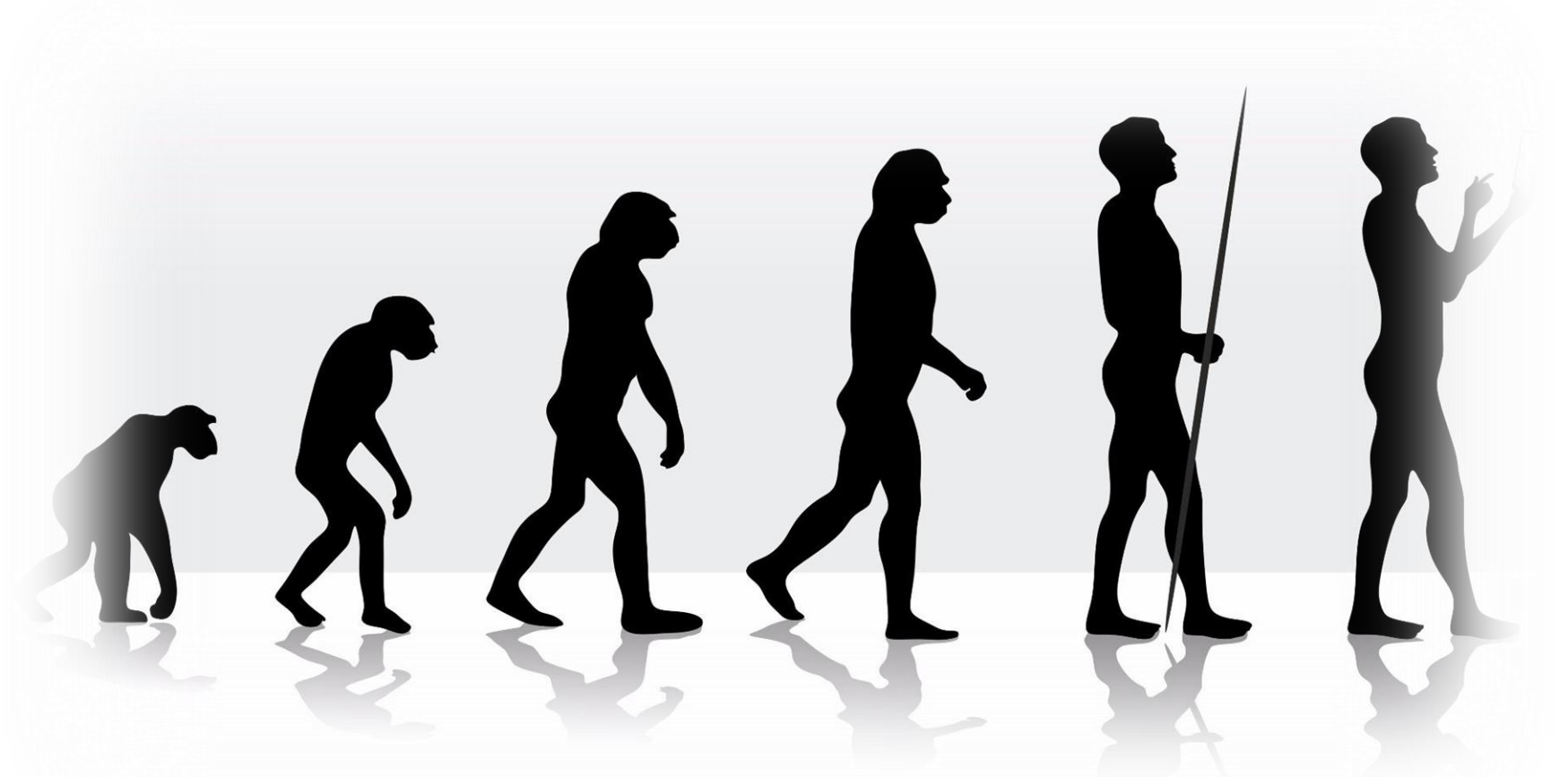
Recognizing that **Parties determine the specific responsibilities** of their national focal points, notes that the primary function of national focal points is to **act as liaisons** with the Secretariat on behalf of their Parties and in so doing, they are responsible for:

- a) **Receiving and disseminating information** related to the Convention;
- b) Ensuring that Parties are **represented** at meetings under the Convention;
- c) **Identifying experts** to participate in ad hoc technical expert groups, assessment processes and other processes under the Convention;
- d) Responding to other **requests for input** by Parties from the Conference of the Parties and the Secretariat;
- e) **Collaborating** with national focal points in other countries to facilitate implementation of the Convention;
- f) **Monitoring, promoting and/or facilitating national implementation** of the Convention;

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/a2-train-role-nfp-v2-2009-02-en.pdf>

Shift from setting policy
to focusing upon implementation:

Additional focal points came into play



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National Focal Point for Article 8(j) and related provisions

Decision X/40: Mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention

- Part B, 7. *Invites* Parties to consider designating national focal points for Article 8(j) and related provisions in support of national focal points, to **facilitate communications** with indigenous and local community organizations and to **promote the effective development and implementation of the programme of work** on Article 8(j) and related provisions

Decision 16/4: Programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions [...] to 2030

- Task 4.5: **Create, strengthen and support a global network of national focal points** on Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention to support the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels, including the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities
- Task 5.1: **Promote the wider application, implementation and monitoring at the national level of adopted plans of action, guidelines and principles [...]**

Notification 2025-006 of 28 January 2025

- Notification on the nomination of National Focal Points for Article 8(j)

Contacts National Focal Points

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[nfp-cbd-tk.pdf](#)

National Focal Points:

Can you share your experience as a national focal point for Art 8(j)?

Traditional knowledge holders and experts:

How have you engaged with your national focal point?



Photo by IISD/ENB | Mike Muzurakis



What do you expect from national focal points?



How can you actively support national focal points in their role?



Elements for discussion

Dissemination of
information between
SCBD – Parties - IPLCs

Ensure the full and
effective participation
of indigenous peoples
and local communities

Facilitate input of IPLCs
into drafting of national
reports, NBSAPs and
notification responses

Promote capacity-
building and
development at
national and local levels

Protection,
preservation and
promotion of
traditional knowledge
and customary
sustainable use