AIPP has been implementing activities based on its three programmes, namely Advocacy and Networking, Education and Organisation, Research and Information Dissemination.

From 2005, four new Programmes were added to include Regional Capacity Building, Campaign and Policy Advocacy and Youth and Strengthening of AIPP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SG</th>
<th>Secretary General</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAM</td>
<td>Finance and Administrative Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPAC</td>
<td>Campaign and Policy Advocacy Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<td>IKBC</td>
<td>Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity Committee</td>
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<td>Human Rights and Advocacy Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>IEC</td>
<td>Indigenous Economics Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GC</td>
<td>Gender Committee</td>
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<td>CMLN</td>
<td>Collaborative Management Learning Network</td>
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<td>ICOLT</td>
<td>Indigenous Community Organisers and Leadership Training</td>
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<td>HRT</td>
<td>Human Rights Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>IWDM</td>
<td>(Training) for Indigenous Women in Decision-Making</td>
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<tr>
<td>IIFB</td>
<td>International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity</td>
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</table>
ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

This Programme involves advocacy and organising conferences and facilitating learning networks to discuss issues of importance to indigenous peoples in the region, and to promote networking among AIPP members and contacts. Advocacies mainly involve coordinating with AIPP members and contacts to ensure presence and preparation of indigenous representatives in relevant UN fora.

Advocacy

CBD–related processes

Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) 10 and 11
The 10th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) met from 7-11 February 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. AIPP Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity Committee (IKBC) members as well as members of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) were present to negotiate on the various agenda items, particularly on island biodiversity, inland waters, marine and coastal biodiversity and Genetic Use Restriction Technologies (GURTs).

Lourdes Amos, as a member of the IKBC represented AIPP at the 11th SBSTTA in Montreal, Canada from November 30–December 5, focusing on the issue of sustainable use. The third meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing was held from 14–18 February in Bangkok. 46 indigenous participants were present under the banner of the IIFB.

Asia Regional Workshop on Traditional Knowledge
Tebtebba held a Capacity Building Workshop from 25–27 April in the Philippines. Afterwards, the Asia Regional Workshop on the Composite Report (on the Status and Trends of Traditional Knowledge) organized by the Secretariat of the CBD, Tebtebba and AIPP was also held in the Philippines from 28–30th April. The AIPP Secretariat was actively involved in facilitating the participation of indigenous representatives to both Workshops. A paper of Protected Areas was presented by the AIPP Secretary General (SG).

Working Group on Protected Areas
AIPP, together with the Forest Peoples Programme, coordinated the participation of indigenous peoples to the first Working Group on Protected Areas in Montecatini, Italy from June 13–17. 23 indigenous
participants attended the meeting, including four representatives from Asia (Adrian Lasimbang, Pravit Nikomuaychai, Goutam Chakma, SG). They have been selected based on past active participation on related issues. Further work is being carried out to prepare country reports as well as other relevant inputs to the CBD Secretariat.

**8(j) Advisory Group**
The 8(j) Advisory Group was set up to provide advice to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on those issues related to traditional knowledge. As a member of that group, the AIPP Secretary General (SG) was invited to a meeting in Montreal, Canada (from 11–14 July) to review the agenda for the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions. The meeting focused its consideration on the Composite Report on the status and trends of traditional knowledge in the various regions.

**Preparation for COP8**
The SG, as a member of the COP8 Coordinating Committee (CC), actively provided advice and worked closely together with the International Alliance of Indigenous/Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forest, which is leading the preparation for COP8 in Brazil in March 2006. Support from AIPP included a follow-up to donors to fund-raise the participation of indigenous representatives from Asia as well as the overall coordination of the IIFB including the preparation of two main topics with 6 case studies, the identification of participants to COP8 from Asia, discussion among the COP8 CC and the preparation of the IIFB Strategy Paper.

**Other UN Meetings**

**UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII)**
AIPP co-organised the Asia preparatory meeting to the fourth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) together with the Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) and the Naga Women Union of Manipur in Shillong from 25–26 February. The preparatory meeting was attended by 35 participants. This meeting dealt mainly with two of the Millennium Development Goals i.e. Education and Poverty Alleviation, being the theme of the PFII in 2005.

AIPP would act as the Secretariat of the Asia PFII for one year, until the next preparatory meeting. Sukhendu Debbarma, AIPP Chairperson and Jason Pan, AIPP EC members were both at the 4th session of the PFII. They presented statements and participated actively in the caucus. Joan Carling (CPA) coordinated the Asia Caucus.

**UN Working Group on the draft Declaration (WGDD)**
The AIPP Secretariat facilitated the participation of one of the three representatives from Asia who were invited to attend a draft Declaration Workshop hosted by the Government of Mexico as well as the UN
Working Group on the draft Declaration (WGDD) in Geneva in December 2005. During the WGDD session, several Articles were provisionally adopted. The Secretariat assisted the dissemination of the proposed Articles while the WGDD was in session.

**Indigenous Development Conference, 5–8 September, Philippines**

**Networking**

The AIPP Secretariat facilitated the preparation for the Conference on Indigenous Development with the local host and co-organiser, Panagtagbo-Mindanao from July onwards. Limited communication facilities complicated the preparation of the Conference but having one of AIPP’s staff in the Philippines helped a lot.

Thirty-one indigenous representatives attended the Indigenous Development Framework Conference in the Philippines. It was held from September 5–8, 2005 in Sungko which is a village of the Talaandig community. The participants came from eleven countries namely: Thailand, Taiwan, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor Leste, Vietnam, India, Nepal and the Philippines. The objectives of the conference were:

- to restore the integrity and cohesiveness of indigenous communities in the region;
- to empower and affirm self-determination of communities based on indigenous concepts for development;
- to come up with a framework to be further elaborated in the subsequent Asia regional-country conferences and
- to come up with strategies to revitalise the different aspects of indigenous development.

At the end of the conference, several themes were planned, with the next meeting planned at a Toraja village in Sulawesi, Indonesia.

“It was such an inspiring conference we had. I thought what we had been priding of on our cultural showcase back home is already about all of our cultures. But on second thought, there are a lot of things to think about. Our culture is not only about tangible things but there must be more on living with its precepts. My commitment is not only telling cultural praxes, theories and frameworks but living with it among with my people is even more strengthened.”

- Rukka Sombolinggi, AMAN, Indonesia
Collaborative Management Learning Network (CMLN)

The Learning Network was established in August 2004 to provide opportunity for 7 sites in Southeast Asia working on collaborative management in protected areas to learn from each other. The AIPP Secretariat facilitated communication for the Southeast Asia CMLN project in its work to fund-raise and identify three additional protected area sites in Laos, Vietnam and Philippines and build the relationship between existing sites, namely: Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia and Thailand.

Next steps include the formation of the steering committee and the hiring of the project coordinator. The SG was responsible for advertising the Regional Coordinator and part-time Finance and Administrative Manager posts until the positions were filled, as well preparing for the new office in Chiang Mai. This project took a rather large amount of time and effort as the project involves several organisations within the CMLN Core Committee, while the Learning Network itself involved a more difficult structure comprising indigenous organisations, NGOs and government.

The SG is directly involved in facilitating this project with the International Workgroup on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Forest Peoples Programme and the IUCN Collaborative Management Working Group.
Young Leadership Development for Fostering Peace Messengers

The collaboration for this programme was a result of the meeting held in May with the AIPP Secretariat and the staff of the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU)-UNESCO. The program seeks to foster young people to be Peace Messengers for building up networks among universities, peace institutions, and NGOs in the Asia-Pacific region.

Other Meetings

The SG was invited to the 4th Mainland Montane South-East Asia (MMSEA) Conference held in Sa Pa, Vietnam from 16 -19 May 2005. The conference was on “sustainable use of natural resources and poverty dialogue in mainland Southeast Asia”. The event provided an opportunity to network with indigenous peoples and academia concerned about issues in mainland Southeast Asia. The SG also attended a field trip and an indigenous fair prior to the conference.

The conference on Combating Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and related Intolerance organized by the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights from 19–21 September in Bangkok was attended by the AIPP Campaign and Policy Advocacy Coordinator. The SG acted as resource person to an indigenous Shan organisation on Self-Determination and Autonomy in September 2005. She was also resource person for a session on Cultural Respect and Solidarity at the APCEIU 5th Asia-Pacific Training of Trainers Workshop on EIU/ESD.

A national workshop on Local Wisdom and Natural Resources and Biological Diversity Management in the Highlands of Thailand was attended by the SG where she presented a paper on the current situations of policies and agreements by the CBD and their applications.
This Programme involves human rights trainings and trainings for indigenous women in decision-making in different countries. The human rights trainings are aimed at enhancing awareness of community representatives on their rights as indigenous peoples, recognised in both national and international instruments. The trainings for indigenous women otherwise are aimed at providing women with a broader comprehension of their rights and build capability to protect and obtain recognition of such rights within their community and in general. Furthermore, the Programme as such is also aimed at building understanding of the work of AIPP and other organisation through internship at the AIPP Secretariat and attachment in other organisations.

Training for Indigenous Women in Decision-Making (Bangladesh, Malaysia)
The AIPP Secretariat coordinated two trainings, one in Bangladesh from October 1–5 and another in Malaysia from December 10–14. Funding for the training for indigenous women in Bangladesh and Malaysia was secured from the UNDP-Regional Indigenous Peoples Initiative. The training in Bangladesh was prepared in coordination with the local co-organizers, Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha and the Hill Tracts NGO Forum (HTNF), while the training in Malaysia was hosted by PACOS TRUST.

Human Rights Training
During 2005, four Human Rights training were held, namely in Madhya Pradesh, Northeast India, Thailand and Taiwan. The trainings were facilitated by the AIPP Project Manager. The AIPP Secretariat secured funds from the IWGIA and from the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC).
RESEARCH & INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

This Programme is aimed at encouraging indigenous peoples to research on topics relevant to debates at the local, national and international level. The research reports and other relevant documents are then packaged into publications and disseminated to members. Where relevant and where funds are available, documents are translated into different major Asian languages. Information is also regularly disseminated to indigenous organisations through email and AIPP’s website.

Information Dissemination and Website
The AIPP Secretariat continued to maintain and collect resources for its library and to encourage members and contacts to use these resources. The mailing list was updated and currently 149 organisations—129 indigenous organizations and 20 support groups - are part of the circle for dissemination of information through email and for mailing. Emails informing members and contacts of various issues continued to be sent. The AIPP Foundation website (www.aippfoundation.org) is also up and running and a number of positive responses have come in.

Natural Resource Management Country Studies
The SG and CPAC are involved in three country studies—Cambodia, Malaysia and Thailand—on legal and policy issues regarding natural resources management for 7 months (October 2005–April 2006) under the UNDP-RIPP. Information collected for the research was validated through workshops with government, NGO and community representatives.

IKB Case Studies and Monographs
AIPP accepted the responsibility to carry out 6 case studies for the IIFB in preparation for COP8, focusing on sustainable use (Thailand and Indonesia), FPIC/ABS (India), *sui generis* protection of traditional knowledge (Philippines, Malaysia and Nepal), Inland Waters (Malaysia), Mountain Biodiversity (Nepal), Forest Biodiversity (India) and Tourism (Yunnan, China). AIPP also helped facilitate the collation of case studies on protected areas in different countries, with financial support from NCIV, with reports completed on Malaysia, Cambodia and Bangladesh. One monograph was also completed on FPIC with financial support from SwedBio.

IIFB CBD Strategy Paper
An IIFB-commissioned paper was prepared by the SG and circulated to the IIFB network. The paper outlined some strategies for the IIFB on the CBD process that is meant to help indigenous representatives in their preparation and negotiation. AIPP also helped facilitate the translation of the paper into Spanish.
REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

This Programme is a regional inter-peoples education and empowerment programme among indigenous peoples in Asia. The activities involve a decade-long community organisers and leadership training aimed at empowering indigenous communities and organisations to exercise collective rights and address their needs.

Preparation of Proposal
The SG represented AIPP in a meeting to formalize the Indigenous Community Organisers and Leadership Training (ICOLT) conceptualised by IWGIA, AIPP, CPA and PACOS TRUST, from January 25 - 29 in Chiang Mai. The meeting focused on the preparation of a proposal for the pilot phase (July 2005–December 2006) and to elaborate on a generic content of the modules for the leadership and community organisers training by PACOS TRUST and CPA. This proposal was submitted to several donors, and managed to secure funds from ICCO (main donor) and IWGIA.

Community Organiser Training (COT)
The AIPP Secretariat facilitated the visit of the trainer/consultant for the Community Organisers Training (COT), Ms. Claudia Yoggie Lasimbang from PACOS Trust to Cambodia and Bangladesh. She visited Cambodia and the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to formalise and assist in the preparation of the training design and modules for the COT in these two areas. The Training of Trainers was held in Ratanakiri, Cambodia in November. The COT is expected to start in January 2006. For the CHT, effort to get permission from the government was initiated after the training design was agreed upon in October 2005. The ICOLT project will also work with PACOS Trust in providing other trainers on a part-time basis and to host exchanges with representatives from the COT project.

Leadership Training (LT)
The Secretariat has helped in facilitating the communication with the two training areas in Mindanao and Malaysia. Joan Carling and other trainers from the CPA would be responsible for the Leadership Training in Mindanao and Malaysia. Joan has contacted local organisations in Mindanao and Malaysia and the LT is expected to start in 2006.
CAMPAIGN & POLICY ADVOCACY

This Programme is aimed at using the experiences of indigenous representatives in campaigns and policy advocacy at the national and international level to share with organisations that need support in bringing about legal and policy change on indigenous rights at home. Activities involve the preparation of indigenous and human rights report and organising an inter-peoples exchange on policy advocacy.

**IPs and Human Rights Report**
The Campaign and Policy Advocacy Coordinator (CPAC), Chingya Luithui, was tasked with preparing a template for data collection for the report on indigenous peoples and human rights in Asia. After contacting indigenous organizations in Asia, four countries were selected as focus areas for 2005. These are India, Burma, Malaysia and Cambodia. The CPAC collected information and prepared a report on Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights for Cambodia, Burma and Malaysia to be submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Indigenous Peoples.

**Preparation for Concept Paper on Policy Advocacy Workshop**
Consultations with a number of indigenous organisations were made to ascertain their needs in terms of policy advocacy at the national level. Afterwards, the CPAC and the SG prepared a concept paper for the policy advocacy workshops expected to be launched in 2006, with support from the European Union funds. These Workshops are expected to bring together representatives of organisations who have been working in their respective countries to advocate for legal and policy change on specific topic on the rights of indigenous peoples to discuss and strategise with representatives who are looking to others to make policy changes in their own countries.
YOUTH PROGRAMME

The Youth Programme wants to address the immense concern at the growing gap between youths and elders in indigenous societies to promote mutual respect. The main activity on the short-term are dialogues between youths and elders aimed at helping communities to work together in the intergenerational transfer of knowledge and values and to foster greater understanding that will ensure continuity of indigenous identity among youths.

ICCO from the Netherlands approved funding to carry out five dialogues per year between youths and elders as part of a first initiative under the Youth Programme. A concept paper for the dialogues was developed. After it was circulated in September, several indigenous organisations immediately expressed interest to organise Youth-Elders dialogues within the year. They are expected to be small and localized and their outcome to be used in subsequent dialogues.

Youth-Elder Dialogue (Malaysia and Mongolia)
The AIPP Secretariat facilitated two Youth-Elders dialogues. They were held in Mongolia by the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy and in Malaysia by the SPNS, an Orang Asli organisation in Peninsular Malaysia. Since only two dialogues were held, it is too early to assess the relevance of the Dialogue as a key activity under the Youth Programme.
ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTHENING

This Programme is aimed at building greater collective leadership within AIPP through the Executive Council and the different Committees. It was set up to oversee the implementation of the programmes and activities set by the General Assembly and to strengthen the cooperation of AIPP members and contacts.

Executive Council Communications
An Executive Council (EC) meeting was held from June 1–2 in Sabah, Malaysia. Prior to the meeting, the members were invited to participate in the traditional *kaamatan* (harvest) festival in Sabah and to visit a number of initiatives by indigenous communities. The meeting dealt with a wide range of organizational matters as well as improving the governance structure. In between EC meetings, informal discussions and decision-making were made through email or teleconference.

Committee Meetings
AIPP secured funding for annual meetings of the four committees within AIPP, the Human Rights and Advocacy Committee (HRAC), the Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity Committee (IKBC), the Indigenous Economics Committee (IEC) and the Gender Committee (GC).

The Gender Committee (GC) held its meeting in Bangladesh prior to the Training on Indigenous Women on Decision-Making from October 30–31. At the meeting, the Committee reviewed the materials for the training and planned for the year 2006.

Proposals and Reports
A number of proposals were prepared for the period 2005–2008. At the request of members, AIPP also drew up a proposal to be submitted to the European Union under its programme on Promoting Rights of Indigenous Peoples for the period 2006–2008. The activities mainly cover AIPP’s Human Rights Training, Preparatory Meetings for relevant UN-related fora, advocacy by indigenous representatives to these fora, report on indigenous peoples and human rights in Asia and strategic planning workshops on policy advocacies.

Secretariat
With the approval by the AIPP General Assembly of a new programme on Campaign and Policy Advocacy, Mr. Chingya Luithui, a lawyer, was recruited in January 2005 as a new staff. To meet the growing administrative need and information dissemination, Mr. Newin Kitjaroonchai was also employed in January 2005. The Secretariat thus has 5 staff. The Admin and Finance continued its routine work to maintain the accounts and running of the office. Arrangements for two interns—one from the Philippines and another from Tripura, Northeast India were also being made.
**Staff Meeting, Movement and Development**
Staff movement continues to be monitored by the Finance and Administrative Manager (FAM). In September 2005, a staff meeting was held in Dahanu, India since all the staff was present to discuss coordination between staff in view of the increasing tasks and responsibilities and the hurdles faced by the Secretariat with the prolonged absence of the Project Manager from the Secretariat. The EC granted the FAM a one-month leave to finish her Masters thesis in June, but this was prolonged into three months between July–September but on an occasional basis.

**Finance**
The FAM continued to keep the books for the organisation, with the SG and the Board Members’ overseeing the management of funds. In December, most of the financial reports were prepared for auditing for the fiscal year 2005.
AIPP FOUNDATION OFFICE-BEARERS
2004-2008

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairperson
Sukhendu Debbarma   ITPDC, India

Secretary-General
Jannie Lasimbang   PACOS TRUST, Malaysia

Executive Council Members
Yongyuth Surbthayat   Hmong Association, Thailand
Alistair Bodra   JOHAR, India
Adrian Lasimbang   JOAS, Malaysia
Datu Victrino M. Saway   Panagtagbo-Mindanao, Philippines
Jason Pan   TARA-Pingpu, Taiwan

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

President   Chupinit Kesmanee
Vice-President   Prasert Trakansupakorn
Secretary   Samart Srijumnong
Treasurer   Sakda Saenmi
Member   Luingam Luithui
### Baht

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<th>Description</th>
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### Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended December 31, 2005

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**TOTAL PAYMENTS**                                                       **8,039,540.71**

**INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE**                                              **9,944,590.96**

(Balance available as of 31 December 2005)

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Mr. Chupinit Kesmanee
AIPP Board President

Ms. Asama Shinmee
Finance & Administrative Manager
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| January  | WG8(j)4/IIFB Prep-meeting, WGABS4 (Granada, 21 Jan–3 February)  
WGDD (Geneva, 30 Jan–3 February) |
| February | AIPP Staff Meeting (CNX, 6 and 7 Feb)  
CMLN Start-Up Meeting (CNX, 8–9 February)  
Internship Programme (4 Feb–3 June)  
GC Meeting/ToT (CNX, 25 - 27 February) |
| March    | Indigenous Concept Workshop (CNX, 1–3 March)  
EC Meeting (CNX, 4–5 March)  
COP8/IIFB Prep meeting (Curitiba Brazil, 18–31 March)  
IKBC (Curitiba Brazil, 25 March) |
| April    | PFII/CHR/WGIP Prepmeeting (Indonesia 7–10 April)  
Natural resource management Regional Workshop (Bangkok, 25–26 April)  
62nd Session of the CHR (Geneva, 13–21 April: IPs Agenda only) |
| May      | Fifth Permanent Forum Session (New York, 15-26 May) |
| June     | Training for Indigenous Women on Decision-Making–Philippines (TBD)  
Regional ILO Training on Indigenous Peoples (CNX, TBD) |
| July     | UNWGIP (Geneva, TBD)  
Compile research on Cultural Integrity (March–July 2006)  
HRT–Cambodia (TBD)  
Policy Advocacy Workshop (Malaysia, TBD)  
HRAC (Malaysia, TBD) |
| August   | ID Conference–Cultural Integrity (Toraja, TBD)  
IEC (Toraja, TBD) |
| September| Training on National Implementation of the CBD Validation Workshops on Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights Reports |
| October  | Training for Indigenous Women on Decision-Making–Burma (TBD) |
| November | Submit IPs and HR report to Special Rapporteur  
HRT–Thailand (TBD) |
| December | AIPP Evaluation |

Other significant AIPP Activities not included in the Programme: Indigenous Community Organisers and Leadership Training (ICOLT), Collaborative Management Learning Network (CMLN), and six Youth-Elders Dialogues.
We, the Indigenous peoples organizations and movements in Asia, having come together in mutual trust and respect for each other, having shared, discussed and deeply reflected on the history, present situation, concerns and aspirations of our people, do hereby established the **ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PACT**

(An Organisation for Indigenous Peoples Movements in Asia)

as an organisation for indigenous peoples movements in Asia, or AIPP.

We believe that the primary function of the AIPP is to strengthen solidarity and linkages among the indigenous peoples organizations and movements in Asia and to strengthen the position of indigenous peoples in Asia.

We affirm our respect and commitment to our close relationship with our land, and our right to self-determination.

We assert our right to our homeland and ancestral domain; and reaffirm our right to own as people our homelands and resources, and to protect, utilize and develop them in ways appropriate to our traditions, beliefs, values and culture.

In upholding these inherent rights of our people in Asia, the AIPP will serve as a forum to facilitate:

- The sharing of our experiences, ideas and aspirations;
- Consolidate unity and solidarity;
- Organize, coordinate and propagate our peoples stand on issues affecting our lives and future.

In fulfilling the above objectives, the AIPP will endeavor to:

- Facilitate unity, solidarity and exchange of ideas and experiences among indigenous peoples in Asia;
- Research document, publish and disseminate information on all aspects of our communities;
- Initiate, support and sustain programs for safeguarding and developing the economic, social and cultural systems of indigenous societies;
- Network and coordinate with other oppressed peoples for the realization of common goals.

We affirm our solidarity with the movements and aspirations of indigenous peoples in other regions of the world.

We also affirm our solidarity with other oppressed and marginalized peoples of this world. We share with them a common endeavor for a just society and a sustainable world.

Dated: 1st May 1992 Bangkok, Thailand

The Charter was amended as resolved by the 2nd General Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand on 17 June 1996 to include some rephrasing and rewording of the text as well as deletion of some words in paragraphs 4, 5 & 6 and the rearrangement of the last two paragraphs of the Charter. The word ‘Forum’ was amended to ‘Organisation’ at the 3rd General Assembly held in July 2003 in Sabah, Malaysia.
Preamble

We, the indigenous peoples organizations and movements in Asia having come together in mutual trust and respect for each other having shared, discussed and deeply reflected on the history, present situation concerns and aspirations of our people.

Having affirmed our desire to assert our right to our homeland and ancestral domain; and having declared our right to own as a people our homelands and resources, and to protect, utilize and develop them in ways appropriate to our traditions, values and culture.

We, the indigenous peoples in Asia, in seeking to assert our inherent right of self-determination,

Hereby establish the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) as an organisation for indigenous peoples organizations and movements in Asia whose primary function would be to strengthen the position of indigenous peoples in Asia.

1. Name of Organization

1.1 The name of the organization will be the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact: An Organisation for Indigenous Peoples Movements in Asia or AIPP.

1.2 The Secretariat of the AIPP will be located at any place as the General Assembly may decide.

2. Nature of Organization

2.1 The AIPP will serve as a forum of indigenous peoples organizations and movements in Asia to facilitate, support and strengthen solidarity and unity among member organizations and movements.

3. Aim and Objectives of the AIPP

3.1 To serve as an organisation for - Sharing of aspirations, ideas and experiences - Consolidating unity and solidarity - Coordinating and organizing campaigns on issues affecting the indigenous peoples in Asia

3.2 To encourage reflection and action on the future of the indigenous peoples in Asia.

3.3 To develop systematic documentation on various issues and aspects of indigenous peoples lives and to publish and disseminate them.

3.4 To advocate the cause of indigenous peoples of Asia.

3.5 To coordinate with all other organizations and movements for the realization of the aspirations of the indigenous peoples in Asia.
4. **Membership**

4.1 Membership to the AIPP is open to all indigenous peoples organizations and movements who subscribe to the aims and objectives of the AIPP.

4.2 Organizations and movements wishing to become members of the AIPP are required to apply in writing to the Executive Council who will decide on the application. Endorsement of the membership will be done by the General Assembly.

4.3 Members are obliged to pay an annual membership due, the quantum of which will be decided by the General Assembly.

5. **Rights and Responsibilities of Members**

5.1 Members will be entitled to participate in all activities of the AIPP and will be full members of the General Assembly.

5.2 Members have the right to voice opinions on the functioning of the AIPP as well as to bring to the attention of the General Assembly any matter concerning the indigenous peoples cause and struggles.

5.3 All members will bear the responsibility of promoting the aims and objectives of the AIPP, of fully participating in the programs and activities of the AIPP, and of paying all dues that are prescribed by the General Assembly.

5.4 A member shall cease to be a member of the AIPP if the member fails to pay the membership dues for two consecutive years.

5.5 A member may be suspended from the membership by the Executive Council for deliberately conducting itself against the Charter and the Working Guidelines. The suspension may be reviewed at the General Assembly. The Assembly may revoke, or endorse the Council decision or take further action and expel the member and its decision will be the final.

5.6 A member shall cease to be a member if the organization or movement withdraws from the AIPP.

6. **General Assembly**

6.1 The General Assembly is the supreme body of the AIPP and shall meet at least once in four years.

6.2 The General Assembly shall consist of all the members of the AIPP.

6.3 The meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened with at least 60 days notice to all members.

6.4 The quorum for the General Assembly shall be at least two-thirds of the invited delegates to the General Assembly. In the event of an adjournment due to a lack of quorum, no quorum will be required for an adjourned meeting.

6.5 All decisions in the General Assembly shall be made by consensus among the delegates drawn from the membership.
7. Functions of the General Assembly

7.1 To review the situation of the indigenous peoples in Asia, and to plan, discuss and approve all activities of the AIPP.

7.2 To constitute the Executive Council and to appoint the Secretary General.

7.3 To receive the report of the Executive Council and the statement of accounts for the period under review.

7.4 To approve the budget for the following term.

7.5 To discuss and decide on any matters brought to the notice of the General Assembly by the members.

7.6 To endorse the Board Members of the AIPP Foundation.

8. Composition and Functions of Foundation Board

8.1 The Board shall meet at least once a year.

8.2 The Board Members of the AIPP Foundation shall be composed of citizens of the host country as well as from amongst the past Chairpersons and Secretary Generals of AIPP who have demonstrated support for the aims and objectives of the AIPP.

8.3 The members of the board shall be composed of the following: the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer who are citizens of the host country, and other Board Members.

8.4 The primary functions of the Board Members of the Foundation shall be to supervise and oversee financial management and to advise the Executive Council on matters as required by the Executive Council.

9. Executive Council

9.1 The Executive Council shall consist of the following members elected by the General Assembly: the Secretary General and up to eight Council members.

9.2 The Chairperson of the Executive Council will be elected by the Council members from amongst them.

9.3 The selection of the Council members shall be such that there will be a representative from each of the regions as specified below;

A. India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan
B. Northeast India, Bangladesh, Burma
C. Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia
D. Malaysia and Indonesia
E. Philippines and Timor Larrasone
F. Japan, Okinawa and Taiwan.
9.4 The Executive Council shall meet at least twice between meetings of the General Assembly.

9.5 The Chairperson shall chair all the meetings of the Executive Council. In the absence of the Chairperson, any member may be nominated to chair the meeting.

9.6 A meeting of the Executive Council shall have a quorum of at least two-thirds of its members. In the event of an adjournment due to a lack of quorum no quorum shall be required for an adjourned meeting.

9.7 A meeting of the Executive Council shall be called by the Secretary General with a notice of not less than 30 days.

9.8 The Executive Council shall take all possible steps and convene an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) for the appointment of a new Secretary General in the event of the Secretary General leaving the Executive Council before the completion of the term. The Executive Council may, appoint a member of the Executive Council the 'Acting Secretary General' for the interim period.

9.9 In the event of a member leaving the Council, the members from the region shall be asked to nominate a new Executive Council member for the region at the earliest possible time. In the case of extra-ordinary situation, the Executive Council may nominate or constitute a sub-council from the region for consultation and communication with the region till the circumstances become conducive to find a consensus choice.

10. Functions of the Executive Council

10.1 The primary function of the Executive Council shall be to supervise and guide the functioning of the AIPP as per the tasks, guidelines and mandates of the General Assembly.

10.2 The Executive Council will appoint staff and look into the needs of the Secretariat.

10.3 The Executive Council shall prepare budgets and receive grants from other sources to meet the expenditure of the AIPP.

10.4 Executive Council shall allot and receive financial statements from the Secretary General and approve of all expenditure for the AIPP.

10.5 The Executive Council shall receive and deal with suggestions, comments and other matters regarding the functioning of the AIPP from the members.

10.6 The Executive Council shall authorize the Secretary General to deal with all such matters that come up before it and receive reports of the action taken.

10.7 The Executive Council shall do all that is necessary to uphold and implement the aims and objectives of the AIPP and shall report on the same to the General Assembly.

10.8 The Executive Council shall determine who shall be considered invited delegates to the General Assembly.

11. Functions of the Chairperson

11.1 The Chairperson is responsible for the overall functioning of the Executive Council.
11.2 The Chairperson, in consultation with the members of the Executive Council, will allocate responsibilities and tasks to members of the Executive Council.

11.3 The Chairperson shall represent the AIPP and act as its spokesperson.

12. Functions of the Secretary General

12.1 The Secretary General shall represent the AIPP and act as the spokesperson of the AIPP in the absence of the Chairperson.

12.2 The Secretary General shall be responsible for the functioning of the Secretariat. The Secretary General shall also be responsible for the implementation of the tasks and mandate set by the Executive Council.

12.3 All decisions in the interim period between meetings of the Council shall be taken by the Secretary General in consultation with the Chairperson.

12.4 The Secretary General shall be responsible for editing and bringing out the newsletter of the AIPP and other publications as required from time to time.

12.5 The Secretary General shall do all that is necessary to uphold and implement the aims and objectives of the AIPP.