

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Fifty-third session
Geneva, September 16 to 25, 2026

INFORMATION NOTE FOR THE PANEL OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its Seventh session, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”) agreed “that, immediately before the commencement of the sessions of the Committee, half-day panel presentations should be organized, chaired by a representative from a local or Indigenous community”. These panels have since been organized for each session of the Committee since 2005.
2. The panel discussion to be held during the Fifty-third session of the Committee will focus on the *Positive and Defensive Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions using Intellectual Property*.
3. The Annex contains the provisional program of the panel.

[Annex follows]

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM OF THE PANEL

Wednesday, September 16, 2026 (Geneva Time)

15.00	Opening Chair – (to be identified by the WIPO Indigenous Consultative Forum)
15.00 – 15.20	Dr. Terri Janke is a Wuthathi, Yadhagana and Meriam woman, lawyer, and author in the field of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property. She is the founder and Managing Director of Terri Janke and Company – a law firm specializing in intellectual property, governance, business law, and Indigenous engagement.
15.20 – 15.40	Solamalemalo Dr. Hai-Yuean Tualima is a Samoan from Sataua, with ties to Faleula, Lepea, Salelologa, and Puapua. She is a Senior Lecturer in Law at <i>Te Herenga Waka</i> – Victoria University of Wellington and is admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand and Samoa.
15.40 – 16.00	Ms. Leslie Jansen is an Indigenous South African lawyer and biocultural rights expert. She works as the Managing Director of the African Community Resource Rights Alliance. She has previously served as an Indigenous expert to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.
16.00 – 16.20	Ms. Gianella Sanchez Guimaraes is a Shipibo-Konibo Indigenous lawyer from the Peruvian Amazon, Peru. She currently works at the Indian Law Resource Center in Washington, D.C., United States of America.
16.20 – 18.00	Discussion with the floor and closing of the panel.

[End of Annex and document]