



## THE BARENTS WORKING GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT

Name of the Working Group: Working Group of Indigenous People's

The current Chair and the Chairmanship period: WGIP is following the rotation in the BEAC

### 1. Priorities of the Chairmanship

Strengthening the collaboration between indigenous peoples in the BEAR

Promote interests of indigenous peoples on all levels of cooperation and on different events

Support Barents indigenous politics, communities and projects

International Decade of Indigenous Languages

III Barents Indigenous summit

### 2. Meetings (meetings held, main topics and outcomes of the meetings)

WGIP meeting in Tromso 26.2.2020

WGIP online meeting 20.5.2020

WGIP online meeting 15.6.2020

WGIP online meeting 11.11.2020

### 3. Other activities (projects, events, programmes etc.)

CSO meetings:

- January 15<sup>th</sup> Oslo
- May 12 – Online
- June 17 – Online
- September 22 – Online
- December 9 – Online

BEAC 14<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting on Environment, 4-5.2.2020, Sweden

JWGY meeting, 16.1.2020, Oslo

Arctic Frontiers 26-28.1.2020, Tromsø

Kirkeneskonferansen 12-13.2.2020

NUPI Russlandskonferansen 2020

Indigenous peoples and covid19 – Food and agriculture organization of the united nations

Kultur Sapmi 3-4.11.2020, Online

Meeting together with the chair of CSO, chair of BRC and IBS on planning 12<sup>th</sup> November, Online

*Due to the pandemic situation WGIP has been not that active this year. Members have been taking part in different events in their regions when it was possible.*

#### 4. Results of the year (decisions, new initiatives, improvements)

Increasing awareness of the indigenous peoples of the Barents region among decision makers and key players in the Barents is an integral part of the WGIP mandate, it is therefore integral for the work of the WGIP to participate in arenas where key players and decision makers meet. The General Assembly of the United Nations has proclaimed 2022-2023 as the International Decade of indigenous languages, and the WGIP is seeking to ensure the participation of both regions and member states of the Barents Euro-Arctic Cooperation.

- WGIP is aiming to participate in the UNPFII Session when it is possible
- WGIP is aiming to conduct 3<sup>rd</sup> Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit in 2021
- WGIP is aiming to conduct a webinar on indigenous languages
- WGIP has reviewed the application of the Council of Commissioners of the Congress of the Karelian people of the Republic of Karelia to be a permanent member of the working group. In accordance with the WGIP Charter and Terms of references, only organizations representing peoples in Russia classified under law as indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East are eligible to become permanent members of the WGIP

#### 5. Youth involvement (how has the working group included young people or worked with youth issues during the year)

WGIP is represented by youth in the BRYC and WGE. WGIP has been in dialogue

WGIP is collaborating with observers and other partners on involving indigenous youth in different projects (Sami Council, International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry ect. )

#### 6. Evaluation of the work (What went well, what needs improvement)

Due to pandemic situation we all had to learn how to work on distance and self isolation had great impact on all of members.

Online meetings are functioning well, but there is nothing like live meetings.

We need to improve organization skills when it comes to online meetings and events, but we do hope that everything will fall into place in 2021 and we will be able to meet live and conduct our important events.

Absence of second secretary makes WGIP functioning for 50%