



SOC News

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measures of progress and a shift from relying on unequal global growth towards serious redistribution in order to tackle poverty in a carbon-constrained world. [Professor Ogunlade Davidson](#), Dean of the University of Sierra Leone and a co-chair of one of the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, stressed that global warming is unequivocally the result of human activities and that governments need to play a central role in mitigating its negative effects. He said climate policy alone will not solve the climate change challenge and that many other policies must be considered, including taxes, subsidies, trade policies, access to modern energy, bank lending policies and insurance policies.

During the second panel on “*Reducing the world’s carbon footprint*”, [Professor Ji Zou](#) of the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Renmin University, China, highlighted the relevance of climate-sound technologies as “the only way out for developing countries”. Developing, diffusing and deploying such technologies required an innovative mechanism for international technology cooperation as part of an international climate regime. [Ms. Leena Srivastava](#) from the En0.98 3rTj10.98 0 0 10885 7.45651 516.41998usingural I

Following a half-day discussion on indigenous languages, the Permanent Forum issued recommendations intended to raise the prestige of indigenous languages, including through supporting efforts towards standardization, establishing indigenous universities and promoting the use of indigenous languages in public administration.

In a methodological shift, the Forum has decided to alternate between policy years and follow-up years and to annually examine in depth the work of six UN agencies. At next year's session, follow up discussion will be devoted to it036

Ø **Thousands gather as annual indigenous forum kicks off at UN Headquarters**

21 April 2008 – The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues meets at “a historic crossroads,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the opening session today as some 3,300 participants from around the world converged on UN Headquarters in New York for the two-week event.

Ø **UN Economic and Social Council to hold meeting on emerging food crisis**

16 April 2008 – The President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has announced plans to hold a meeting of the Council early next month to discuss how to respond to the growing food crisis around the world.

For further information, please contact ecosocinfo@un.org