This volume assembles in one place the work of scholars who are making key contributions to a new approach to the United Nations and to global organizations and international law more generally. Anthropology has in recent years taken on global organizations as a legitimate source of its subject matter. The research in this field gives a human face to these world-reforming institutions. Palaces of Hope demonstrates that these institutions are not monolithic or uniform, even though loosely connected by a common organizational network. They vary above all in their powers and forms of public engagement. Yet there are common threads that run through the studies included here: the actions of global institutions in practice, everyday forms of hope and their frustration, and the will to improve confronted with the realities of nationalism, neoliberalism, and the structures of international power.

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The series editors come from a range of disciplines: academic law; socio-legal studies; sociology; and anthropology. All have been actively involved in teaching and writing about law in context.

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Palaces of Hope

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS

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The chapters in this book were first presented at a workshop on the McGill campus in Montreal titled Palaces of Hope: The Anthropology of Global Institutions. This workshop was hosted by the Faculty of Law at McGill University and co-sponsored by the Pearson Chair in Civil Society and Public Policy and the Departments of Law and Anthropology, and Resilience and Transformation in Eurasia of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology. The editors wish to thank the McConnell Foundation and the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology for the support that made this meeting possible, particularly given that it gathered together scholars from twelve institutions coming from eight countries (two via Skype). Our research assistants, Ian Kalman and Adam Fleischmann, were important not only for their part in the logistics of the meeting but also its content, to which they contributed through their careful note-taking and commentary. We are grateful to the contributors to this volume for their productive exchange during the workshop and the high quality of the work they produced subsequent to it, not to mention their patience with our suggestions along the way. We wish to thank the two anonymous reviewers of our proposal, who encouraged us all to be attentive to the many complexities and nuances of our subject matter. Finally, we are grateful to the many people we met during our fieldwork in and around the UN, who were essential both in the subject matter and the inspiration for this volume.
Abbreviations

AAA American Anthropological Association
CBC Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
CBD Convention on Biological diversity
CBO Community-Based Organization
CCA Country Common Assessment
COICA Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica
COP Conference of Parties
CTBTO Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization
DG Director General
DPI Department of Public Information
DRIP Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
ECOSOC Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
EIB European Investment Bank
ELCIN Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia
EU European Union
FOTCD Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division
FPIC Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP Gross Domestic Product
GNP Gross National Product
HDI Human Development Index
HDRO Human Development Report Office
HRC-SPD Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division
HRTD Human Rights Treaties Division
IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency
IBRD International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICC Inuit Circumpolar Council
ICC International Criminal Court
ICCCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICL International Criminal Law
List of Abbreviations

ICOMOS International Council of Monuments and Sites
ICTR International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
IDA International Development Association
IDPs Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC International Finance Corporation
IFI International Finance Institution
IFR In-Stream Flow Requirements
IIFB International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity
ILO International Labour Organization
IMF International Monetary Fund
IPACC Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee
IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPO Indigenous Peoples’ Organization
IRN International Rivers Network
ITC-ILO International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization
IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWGIA International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs
LAC Legal Assistance Center
LHDA Lesotho Highlands Development Authority
LHWP Lesotho Highlands Water Project
LLEs Local Legal Entities
LRF Legal Resources Foundation
MDGs Millennium Development Goals
MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NAMA National Asset Management Agency
NDF Namibian Defense Force
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
NGO Nongovernmental Organization
NRCS Namibia Red Cross Society
OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OD Operational Directive
OHCHR Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPCW Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
OTP Office of the Prosecutor
OXFAM Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
PFII Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
POE Panel of Environmental Experts
PPP Purchasing Power Parity
RAIPON Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North
REDD+ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RIS Reservoir-Induced Seismicity
List of Abbreviations

RMAs Range Management Associations
RRDD Research and Right to Development Division
SDGs Sustainable Development Goals
SPFII Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
SRS Serbian Radical Party
SSM Special Safeguard Mechanism
SuR State under Review
TA Traditional Authority
TK Traditional knowledge
TRIPS Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UNAOC United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
UNDESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDG United Nations Development Assistance Group
UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHQ United Nations Headquarters
UNICEF United Nations Children’s Fund
UNICRI United Nations Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNMOVIC United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission
UNPFII United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UNSC United Nations Security Council
UNSC United Nations Statistical Commission
UNSD United Nations Statistical Division
UNSO United Nations Statistical Office
UPR Universal Periodic Review
USAID United States Agency for International Development
WBG World Bank Group
WFP World Food Program
WGIP Working Group on Indigenous Populations
WIMSA Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa
WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO World Trade Organization
WWF World Wildlife Fund