**Submission prepared by the Centre for Human Rights and Development, NGO of Mongolia**

**for the General Discussion of the Human Rights Committee.**

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The Right to life under article 6 of the ICCPR requires positive measures to ensure access to work, food and other ESCRs. We bring 2 examples from people’s livelihood in Mongolia.

The transition to market economy started in 1990s lead to privatization of many state enterprises. Some of them were coal mines for national and local supply. Unfortunately the workers have not been able to find other jobs and the demands for coal are existing. In order to survive and earn for food and other basic needs local miners continue to mine coal. They mine illegally in very unsafe conditions. There have been many cases of death because of collapses in mine holes and poisoning gas.

The incomplete and in official data say that as of 2013 in mining sector of Mongolia 323 miners lost lives. Only in Nalaikh coal mine more than 1,5 thousand artisanal small scale miners work in order to survive. Half of them are local and half of them came from other sites to earn. Every year in this mine in average 10-15 miners have dead. All of them were 15-35 years old.

The mining policy of Mongolia affects also herders. Intensive mining activities (currently there are approximately 1000 extraction licenses and 2000 exploration licenses are valid in Mongolia) taking place in Mongolia destroy pasture and water sources in vast areas. Thousands of herders have been pushed out from their pasture lands and gave up traditional nomadic way of livelihood because of mining, migrate to cities and become rural poor. Migrated herders settle in city suburb areas without any basic social services. They lack job skills demanded by city labour market. Only option for them to earn for living is informal sector, where they usually can’t meet end. The Mongolian Food Coalition (Coalition of NGOs working on the right to food) showed in its survey conducted in 2014 of randomly selected 50 suburb areas Ulaanbaatar city showed that their income is not enough even for food. 80% of them have to borrow in order to buy basic food. Almost all of them had debt. Chronic malnutrition and cold winter cause various disease.

To protect the right to life of these people the Government of Mongolia needs to undertake positive measures to provide with decent jobs.