



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 91937 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: cerd@ohchr.org

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31 August 2012

Excellency,

I write to inform you that in the course of its 81st session, the Committee considered information submitted by a non-governmental organization regarding the alleged ongoing persecution of indigenous leaders in Limbuwan, in Nepal.

The Committee expresses its concern about allegations that indigenous leaders of the Pallo Kirant Limbuwan Rastriya Manch (PKLRM) continue to be harassed and persecuted by the State party under criminal charges, including charges of sedition and treason. It has been brought to the attention of the Committee that indigenous peoples' territories have been militarized and that the State party has interfered with their attempts to engage in democratic political processes and have arbitrarily detained them. It has also been brought to the attention of the Committee that the alleged harassment and persecution have occurred as a result of attempts by Limbuwan leaders to raise awareness about 18th century treaties between the traditional inhabitants of Limbuwan and the Nepalese monarchy in relation to their independent status. The Committee is further concerned about allegations suggesting that most of the indigenous leaders of Limbuwan have fled Nepal to escape further persecution.

The Committee requests the State party to provide information on the situation of Limbuwan indigenous peoples, in particular regarding allegations of ongoing harassment and persecution of Limbuwan leaders. The Committee would also like to receive information on measures taken to improve the situation of Limbuwan indigenous peoples and to engage in dialogue with them in relation to their rights to political participation, freedom of assembly, and freedom of expression. Further, the Committee requests information on measures taken to ensure the free and equal participation of indigenous peoples of Limbuwan in the ongoing constitution-writing process and to freely choose representatives in that process, including by the establishment of a committee on indigenous people, as recommended by the Committee in its previous letters.

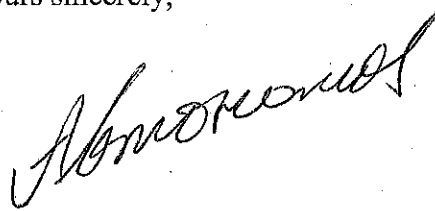
H.E. Mr. Shanker Das Bairagi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Nepal
to United Nations Office at Geneva
Rue de la Servette 81, 1202-Geneva
Fax: +41 22 733 27 22

The Committee urges the State party to submit its seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth periodic reports overdue since 1 March 2008 and to include in these reports information regarding the situation of indigenous peoples of Limbuwan.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Convention and article 65 of its Rules of Procedures, the Committee would be grateful to receive urgently information on all issues and concerns as outlined above, before **31 December 2012**. The Committee will consider such replies during the dialogue with the State party in the course of its 82nd session.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of Nepal with a view to promoting the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,



Alexei Avtonomov
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination