# MINORITIES & NATURAL RESOURCES

Promoting Minority Rights in the Development and Management of Natural Resources

14 December 2010 13.00-15.00 Room XXV Palais des Nations

Speaker Biographies





Organized by the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization & Minority Rights Group International

### NATURAL RESOURCES

## Minority Rights & the Development of Natural Resources

#### **Maggie Murphy**

Maggie Murphy is Programme Manager of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, an international, nonviolent and democratic membership organisation whose members are indigenous peoples, minorities, and unrecognised or occupied territories. UNPO has been drawing attention to marginalized groups at the United Nations and elsewhere for over 20 years, aiming to ensure that UNPO Members are able to effectively access and participate in international bodies mandated to protect their rights.

#### **Mark Lattimer**

Mark Lattimer is the Executive Director of Minority Rights Group International, an NGO which works worldwide to secure the rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples. Formerly with Amnesty International, he is frequently used as an expert by UN agencies, the Council of Europe and the OSCE. He has written and run training on constitutional law and minorities, and is the author or editor of a number of books, including 'Justice for Crimes against Humanity' (2003) and 'Genocide and Human Rights' (2006).

#### **Christoph Wiedmer**

Christoph Wiedmer is a former high-school teacher turned environmental activist following long travels through Latin America. For 14 years he worked as a campaigner and team-leader at Greenpeace Switzerland. In 2006 he became Director of the Society for Threatened People Switzerland and board member of the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) Switzerland (the Swiss branch of STP International) is a non-profit organization working in the field of human rights, focusing on the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples. For more information on STP see: <a href="www.gfbv.ch">www.gfbv.ch</a>.

#### Senator Sanaullah Baloch \*

Senator Sanaullah Baloch is a former Member of Parliament of Pakistan, having served as a Member of the Senate of Pakistan (2003-2008) and as Member of the National Assembly (1997-1999). In addition, he has served as a Member of numerous Standing Committees within Pakistan's government. Mr. Baloch has research and professional expertise in the fields of Democracy, Federalism, Parliamentary Affairs, Political Parties, Constitutionalism, Conflict Resolution, and Women's and Human Rights.

#### Kathy Polias \*

Kathy Polias was the UN Liaison for the Uyghur American Association from November 2009 through June 2010, during which time she utilized the UN mechanisms to promote the Uyghurs' human rights at the UN. She currently serves as UN Liaison for the World Uyghur Congress.

Jane Meriwas\*\*

<sup>\*</sup> at the invitation of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization

<sup>\*\*</sup> at the invitation of Minority Rights Group International