

International Consultation on Caste-Based Discrimination

Good practices and strategies to eliminate caste discrimination

29 November

08:30 Registration

09:00 Inaugural Session

Consultation Moderator: Ms. Gay McDougall, Visiting Professor in Human Rights, Georgetown University Law Center and Former UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues

Co-moderator: Mr. Pushkar Khati, Vice-General Secretary, Dalit NGO Federation, Nepal

Speakers:

Ms. Durga Sob, President, Feminist Dalit Organization, Nepal

Ms. Rikke Nöhrind, Coordinator, International Dalit Solidarity Network

Mr. Lluís Navarro, Chargé d'Affaires of the European Union Delegation to Nepal

Mr. Vijay Parmar, National Convenor, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, India

Mr. Bijul Kumar Bishwakarma, Chair, National Dalit Commission, Nepal

Ms. Jyoti Sanghera, Head, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights – Nepal

Ms. Jean Lambert, Chair, The European Parliamentary Delegation for relations with South Asia

Chief Guest: Mr. Narayan Kaji Shresth, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nepal

Short film screening: "We are not untouchable: End caste discrimination now"

10:20 Session I

Effective civil society strategies

Speakers:

Mr. Bezwada Wilson, National Convenor, Safai Karmachari Andolan, India

Dr. Trilochan Upreti, Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Nepal

Mr. Bhakta Bishwakarma, President, National Dalit Social Welfare Organisation, Nepal

Ms. Ruth Manorama, President, National Federation of Dalit Women, India

Mr. Basil Fernando, Former Director, Asian Human Rights Commission

Ms. Gulnara Shahinian, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery

Discussion

11:15 Coffee at tables

11:30 Session II

Effective frameworks and institutions: Challenges, good practices and opportunities

Co-moderator: Mr. Meen Bishwakarma, Member, Nepali Congress Executive Committee

Speakers:

Constitutional drafting and the Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability Act:

Mr. Yam Bahadur Kisan, Independent Lawyer, writer and researcher, Nepal

Access to Justice for Dalits in Nepal – OHCHR's experience and recommendations: Ms. Katia Chirizzi, Coordinator Anti-Discrimination/Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights – Nepal

Access to Justice for Dalits in India – Effective Enforcement of legislation: Mr. Prasad Sirivella, General Secretary, Justice Movement, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, India

Discussant: Ms. Meenakshi Ganguly, South Asia Director, Human Rights Watch

Discussion

12:40 Lunch

13:45 Session III

Experiences of National Human Rights Institutions

Speakers:

Mr. Bishal Khanal, Secretary, National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

Mr. J. Pariyar, Member secretary of National Dalit's Commission, Nepal

Mr. Raju Parmar, Commission member, The National Commission on Scheduled Castes, India

Ms. Selina Hossain, Commission member, The National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh

Discussant: Mr. Henri Tiphagne, Director, People's Watch – Tamil Nadu, India

Discussion

15:00 Session IV

Mainstreaming tools and policies

Speakers:

Data collation and monitoring: Experiences from the National Census of Nepal: Mr. Uttam Narayan Malla, Director General, Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal

Inclusive Government Policies and Programming: Mr. Shiv Bahadur Rayamajhi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Local Development, Nepal

Experiences of UNDP-Nepal: Mr. Dharma Swarnakar, Programme Officer, UNDP, Nepal

Dalits in Bangladesh; Experiences and Opportunities: Mr. Zakir Hossein, Director, Nagorik Uddyog/Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement

Discussant: Mr. Paul Divakar, General Secretary, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, India

Discussion

16:15 Coffee Break

16:45 **Session V**

Mainstreaming and inclusion in programming

Speakers:

Experiences of the EU: Mr. Shiva Bhandari, Programme Manager, EU delegation – Nepal

Experiences of the ILO: Mr. Coen Kompier, Senior Specialist on International Labour Standards, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia, India

Innovative practices and strategies in local development: Mr. Martin Macwan, Co-Founder, Navsarjan Trust, India

Experiences of the Al-Akhdam: Mr. Sami Al-Naggar, Chair, All Youth Organisation, Yemen

Dalits in Pakistan; rights and development: Dr. Sono Khangarani, Director, Tardeep Rural Development Organisation, Pakistan

Discussion

18:00 – 18:20 **Rounding up of deliberations of the day**

19:30 **Dinner**

30 November

08:30 **Recapping from day one and information on workshops**

09:00 **Session VI**

Good practices and future strategies to eliminate caste discrimination in humanitarian relief and rehabilitation assistance

Co-moderator: Mr. Tudor Silva, Director, International Centre of Ethnic Studies, Sri Lanka

Speaker: Case study from India and presentation of draft framework: Mr. Prasad Chacko, Director, National Dalit Watch-NCDHR, India

Discussant: Mr. Samuel Marie-Fanon, Technical Assistant for Nepal and Rapid Reaction Coordinator for South Asia (ECHO)

09:45 **Session VII**

Addressing multiple forms of discrimination against Dalit women

Co-moderator: Ms. Ruth Manorama, President, Federation of Dalit Women, India

Speaker: Ms. Manjula Pradeep, Director, Navsarjan Trust, India

Discussant: Ms. Sangeeta Thapa, Programme Coordinator, UN Women South Asia

10:30 **Move to workshops – Coffee in rooms**

10:35 **Session VIII**

Workshops 1, 2, 3, and 4

Workshop themes:

1. Effective frameworks, policies and institutions
2. Addressing multiple discrimination against Dalit women
3. Humanitarian standards and a framework to eliminate caste-based discrimination in humanitarian responses
4. Forced and bonded labour and discrimination issues in employment

13:30 **Lunch**

14:30 **Session IX**

Workshops 5, 6, 7 and 8

Workshop themes:

5. Access to development; services and resources
6. Public Awareness and Campaigns against Caste Discrimination
7. Untouchability practices and inter-community experiences
8. Civil society strategies – linking local, national and international strategies

17:30 **End of workshops**

19:30 **Dinner**

1 December

09:00 **Session X**

Conclusions

Recommendations from workshops

Presentation of Consultation Declaration by Drafting Committee

Reflections

Closing remarks

Ms. Nimalka Fernando, President, International Movement Against all forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)

Mr. Morten Jespersen, Ambassador of Denmark to Nepal – EU Local Presidency

Mr. Rory Mungoven, Head of Asia Pacific Section, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Vote of thanks:

Mr. Gajadhar Sunar, President, Dalit NGO Federation, Nepal

Ms. Rikke Nöhrind, Coordinator, IDSN

11:00 **End of consultation**

The Consultation is organised by the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) in cooperation with Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO), Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organisation (NNDSWO) and Dalit NGO Federation with financial support of the European Union. The contents of the consultation are the sole responsibility of IDSN and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.



Cover photo by Jakob Carlsen: A young Dalit boy in Nepal is leaping for change