Parallel Meeting on the occasion of the 7th session of the Human Rights Council

Unfinished business for the HRCAC: Adoption of Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Effective Elimination of Discrimination Based on Work and Descent?

12th March 2008 at 13:30-14:45 Venue: Room E 2064 + 66, Palais des Nations

This meeting is hosted by the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), with the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Pax Romana/ICMICA MIIC and FORUM-ASIA as cohosts and the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) as an associate with the purpose to ensure adoption of the draft principles and guidelines on discrimination based on work and descent. A final report prepared pursuant to Sub-Commission resolution 2006/14 on discrimination based on work and descent by Special Rapporteurs Prof. Yokota and Prof. Chung, including the draft UN principles and guidelines on the effective elimination of discrimination based on work and descent, have been finalized and should according to resolution 2006/14 be handed over "to the Sub-Commission or its successor body, or in the absence of either, to the Council". Since no consideration of the pending mandates have been made so far by the Human Rights Council as part of the institution-building phase, the draft principles and guidelines on discrimination based on work and descent are left in a vacuum following the closing of the Sub-Commission along with a number of other mandates. How do we ensure that the unfinished business will be dealt with adequately by the HRCAC?

Programme

13:30 Introduction

- 13:35 How can the draft UN principles and guidelines on the elimination of discrimination based on work and descent promote the human rights of 260 million Dalits? Presentation on substantive issues by Mr. Peter N. Prove, Assistant to the General Secretary for International Affairs and Human Rights, Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
- **13:50** Building a future mechanism for effective monitoring and reporting on discrimination based on work and descent. Commentary by Ms. Gay McDougall, Independent Expert on Minorities
- 14:05 UPR and discrimination based on work and descent: Documenting caste-based discrimination in states reviewed by the UPR mechanism (1st and 2nd sessions)
 - India: Mr. Vincent Manoharan, General Secretary for the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)
 - **Sri Lanka** and **Japan**: Ms. Nimalka Fernando, President of the International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)
 - **Pakistan**: Mr. Sono Khangharani, Chief Executive Officer, Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP)
- 14:30 Discussion: How can the draft UN Principles and Guidelines effectively contribute to the elimination of caste-based discrimination against 260 million people worldwide?
- 14:45 Closure