

**IDSN – Extracts on caste from the 2nd UPR of Nepal
4. November 2015**

References to Caste-based discrimination and Dalits from the statements delivered during the 23rd session of the Universal Periodic review

(Recommendations are marked in **bold**)

Namibia	Recommends that Nepal takes the necessary steps to ensure effective implementation of the Discrimination and Untouchability Act of 2011 and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.
Denmark	Denmark welcomes the Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act from 2011. However, discrimination based on gender, caste, ethnicity, and religion is still widespread despite some progress made with the new Constitution. Denmark recommends that Nepal ensures full and effective implementation of the 2011 Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act.
Paraguay	Expressed concern over the situation of violence against women in Nepal. The level of trafficking in persons especially Dalit women and girls. Recommendation: develop public policies for the implementation of the law against caste-based discrimination.
Russian federation	Commends the praiseworthy effort in combating racial discrimination especially though their zero tolerance policy on caste-based discrimination
Switzerland	Following the first UPR Cycle, the Swiss has recommended for the GoN to eliminate caste based discrimination. In spite of a the law from 2011 addressing the issue, the issue of caste discrimination is still pervasive and poorly investigated. The Swiss recommends that Nepal sets in place a concrete strategy to implement the law on caste-based discrimination and untouchability from 2011.
Thailand	Thailand remains concerned about numerous reports of caste-based violence and discrimination against women, especially indigenous women. Recommend Nepal to strengthen its efforts to effectively implement existing laws and policies to eliminate all forms of discrimination.
United Kingdom	We are concerned about discriminatory access to earthquake relief—particularly among Dalits and members of other marginalized groups.
United States	Ensure that earthquake relief engages and addresses the needs of members of vulnerable communities, including Dalits, and promotes decent work.
Argentina	Seeing the numerous legal initiatives to prevent de facto discrimination against the dalit community, we welcome with satisfaction the anti discrimination and untouchability bill

	and recommend that the government of Nepal initiate investigations in acts of discrimination against the Dalit community.
Brazil	Brazil takes note with appreciation of the adoption of the 4th National Human Rights Action Plan (2014-2019), which focuses on areas such as education, nutrition, health and labour. We also highlight the implementation of the 13th Five-Year Plan by Nepal, which includes measures aiming at the promotion of a non-discriminatory and inclusive society. We encourage the adoption of policies to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including against Dalits, women, Tharus, Madhesi, indigenous peoples and religious minorities.
China	Mentioned the rights of people from low caste
Columbia	Recognizes the determination of the Nepalese Government to combate forced and bonded labour and notes with appreciation the 2011 adoption of Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability act from 2011.
Czech Republic	Recommends Nepal to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the laws aimed at ending and preventing all forms of discrimination, in particular against women and Dalits. And take concrete steps to translate anti-discrimination efforts into concrete practice on the ground.
Estonia	We are also concerned that despite some steps taken the issue of violence against women and children, including sexual violence and abuse, is a burning problem. With this regard Estonia also notes with regret that women and girls, particularly those of Dalit origin, still suffer from harmful traditional practices. We call on Nepalese authorities to investigate cases involving such practices and to punish those responsible, provide protection and rehabilitation to victims and expedite the adoption of the bill to criminalize harmful practices.
Finland	Recommends that Nepal ensure equal educational opportunities for all children, including girls and Dalit-children, in line with the observations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
Germany	Work actively to abolish legal and factual discrimination based on ethnicity, gender and cast, inter alia by developing effective and independent mechanisms for the implementation of the caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability Act.
Japan	Commends the GoN on its efforts in to promote and protect human rights through the promulgation of Nepal's new constitution in September this year, which in addition to providing extensive coverage of fundamental human rights, incorporate articles on protection and human rights of indigenous and other minorities, Dalit, Women, children and socially vulnerable groups. On the other hand, considering the actual situation and the many issues that remain to be addressed, Japan recommends that Nepal make increased efforts to truly bring an end to discrimination.
References to Caste and Dalits Submitted in the advance questions not included in the oral statements	

during the session.

Norway

The right to education applies to all children. As Nepal is formulating a new sector plan for school education, what measures will be taken to promote greater equity in both access, enrolment and educational outcome for marginalized groups, including Dalit children and children with disabilities?

Kenya (did not participate in the session)

What possible measures and assistance can the international community provide to the Government of Nepal to enable Nepal effectively and decisively eradicate discrimination and social exclusion – caste-based discrimination?