

# **15th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Fifteenth session**

04–08 July 2022  
Geneva, Switzerland

## **Agenda Item 6: Country Engagement**

Statement on behalf of Asia Indigenous Peoples' Caucus

Presented by - Rojiek Mahin

Thank you, Mr Chair/Madam Chairperson,

I would like to thank the EMRIP for the session on Country Engagement, which is one of the important mandates of EMRIP.

The Asia Indigenous Peoples' Caucus like to thank and appreciate Member States who have engaged with EMRIP through the country engagement mandate. The Expert Mechanism must continue engaging with the States, indigenous peoples, civil society, international organizations, national human rights institutions, and other relevant United Nations agencies to translate the United Nations Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous into action. This mandate also facilitates Indigenous Peoples' participation in the policy and decision-making processes.

Mr Chair/Madam Chairperson,

I would like to underscore that the Member States from Asia have not yet engaged with Expert Mechanism. The lack of engagement with the UN mechanisms is reflecting the unwillingness of Member states in Asia and their failure to comply with the rights of Indigenous Peoples enshrined in the UNDRIP.

In this regard, we call upon the HRC and UN Experts:

- to engage with the Member States and Indigenous Peoples to find ways and trust to facilitate country engagement in Asia.
- to conduct a study specifically on Asia to identify the barriers and challenges regarding the implementation of UNDRIP and the situation of Indigenous Peoples in Asia.
- to facilitate dialogues between the Member States in Asia and Indigenous Peoples regarding the development of domestic legislation and policies relating to the right of Indigenous Peoples to achieve the Declaration.

Finally, we call upon the Member States, particularly the Member States from Asia, to initiate engagements with Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous People in Asia to establish constructive collaboration.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Expert Mechanism, Member States, Indigenous leaders, and organizations for their invaluable work. We look forward to working with the Member States and the Expert Mechanism.

We thank you for this opportunity, Mr. Chair/Madam Chairperson.  
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