

Statement of SANJEEB DRONG, Representative of **Bangladesh Adivasi Forum**,
an Indigenous Peoples' Organization,

Human Rights Council
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Agenda Item - 4

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,
Delegates of Member States,
Representatives of the Indigenous Peoples and Organizations,
Indigenous brothers and sisters,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Greetings to all your Excellencies and distinguished delegates. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I will focus only on one Article of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The **Article 16 states**, "Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination."

States has the main responsibility to take effective measures for promoting indigenous media and to ensure that State-owned media duly reflect indigenous cultural diversity. It is in the Declaration.

Media can play a vital role in promoting and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at country level. I urge the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to look forward and the way how indigenous peoples can establish their own media and implement this Article 16 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Special measures and attention are essential for the promotion and development of indigenous media.

Thank you.