Assyrian Aid Society Iraq الجمعية الاشورية الخيرية العراق

ܡܬܬܝܕܥܐ ܐܬܘܪܝܐ ܕܥܪܩܐ

"Organization in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council since 2011"

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ܫܠܡܐ ܠܟܘܢ، ܡܪܝܐ ܕܟܠܗ ܫܠܡܐ ܕܥܡܗ ܕܐܠܗܐ ܕܐܒܐ ܘܒܪܗ ܘܪܘܚܐ ܩܕܝܫܐ ܕܚܝܐ ܒܫܡܝܐ ܘܒܐܪܥܐ

Shlama Al lokhon
Peace be with you,

Thank you, Madam. Chair, for allowing me to speak.
Item10. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The Rights of Indigenous peoples to live in peace in their lands and territories is challenging, including political instability, religion, economics and ethnic backgrounds. These discriminations are direct target to the Indigenous Peoples their rights to keep their traditions, culture and heritage.
Over last hundred years the Assyrian Christians Indigenous Peoples of Iraq and in parts of Middle East has suffered from continuous genocide. And this has lead the Assyrian to immigrate to other parts in world reducing population from 1,500,000 in 2003 to less than 300,000 to date.

After liberations of Nineveh Plain region from IS terrorist organization (Daesh) the Assyrians continue to suffer from lack of security, basic services and ongoing internal political conflicts. Currently, Nineveh Plain region is divided between two rivalries Iraqi and Kurdistan regional governments. The high activity of security forces in the region, has limited the local community to access main roads places such as Telkaief – Alqush road, Bashiqa – Saint Mathew road. This has affected the process of reconstructions for the return of Indigenous Peoples who were displaced due to IS occupation. Furthermore, the process of reconstruction in Nineveh Plain in general, is extremely slow due to limited resources allocated for the region. Over 14,000 homes and buildings in Nineveh Plain have been destroyed which are homes for Assyrian Christian.
After IS (Daesh) occupation in the region, the loss of confidence of the inhabitants of Nineveh Plain and Mosul city has resulted with only 45% of Assyrian Christians returned to Nineveh Plain and less than 50 Assyrian Christians families returned to Mosul city reducing population from 60,000 in 2003 to 3,000 families in 2014.

Recommendation;
Based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples we recommend;

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1: For the Iraqi government and parliament to issue law according to the Iraqi constitutions article 125, which allow the right for the Assyrians to autonomy administration and to establish new province in Nineveh Plain.

2: To free the Nineveh Plain region from the political conflict tensions between the Iraqi government and KRG, and for central government authority to help to build the confidence for Indigenous Peoples for their return to their homelands.

3: To unite forces in Nineveh Plain representing local community and to connect with the Iraqi security forces according to historical population percentage of Nineveh Plain.

4: For the Iraqi government with support of United Nations and international community with local NGOs should lead a program of reconciliations in Nineveh Plain and Mosul city, to ensure for the return of the Indigenous Peoples the Assyrian Christians to their lands and homes.

5: To adopt new institution way of system in the country based on accepting others and to unify its citizens to homeland. To protect and safe guard citizens from the repeat of radical organization targeting specific ethnic and religious people of Iraq.

Thank you for your attention
long live indigenous peoples worldwide

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