

Item 5: GD

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence



The ODVV is deeply concerned over the systematic discrimination against the indigenous people in Canada, who are faced with numerous challenges due to the racist policies of the country. Extensive poverty, lack of equal access of the indigenous to health, education and social services, clean drinking water, adequate housing and food security are some of these issues.

Our organization is also concerned over the disregarding of the numerous demands of the country's civil society for the amendment of the new Canada National Security draft legislation. By facilitating necessary opportunities for the Canadian national security and intelligence services, this legislation will threaten the fundamental rights and freedoms of the country.

We express our deep concern over the Canadian government's illegal and immoral implementation of damn construction over the Muskrat waterfall and contamination of the rivers from the waterfall with mercury. The construction of this damn is equal to the cultural genocide of the residents of the region, 90 percent of which are indigenous people. This is a violation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people.

Our institute is concerned over the systematic racism towards African-Canadians. All across Canada, many African-Canadians continue to live in economic poverty, with limitation of access to health and education. They also face racial segregation and marginalization. The mortality rate with an anti-black approach by the police, street controls and assault particularly against vulnerable African-Canadians and mistreatment in prisons are causes for concern.

Our Institute hopes that the Canadian government pays real attention to these human rights issues.