

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
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Agenda Item 7: Proposals to be submitted to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and approval

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Mr. Chair, expert members, distinguished government delegates, indigenous sisters and brothers,

I deliver this statement on behalf of Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN) from Indonesia and I would like to request EMRIP to propose the Human Rights Council to conduct a study related to the issue of peace and security. Through such a study, we believe that the Expert mechanism can for example, clarify how indigenous peoples can contribute to peace building, conflict resolution and promotion of peace and security.

Moreover, we believe that there are quite a number of UN member States that supporting indigenous rights and take serious measures to protect and promote those rights, especially their right to peace and security. Therefore, through the study related to peace and security, we strongly believe that EMRIP can also identify good practices of States as examples to the other UN member States in how to effectively protect and promote indigenous peoples' rights in their actions for establishment of peace and security within indigenous territory.

Mr. Chair and expert members,

Let me take this opportunity to express the appreciation of indigenous peoples in our country to Indonesian government for their efforts in formulating the Draft Act on Recognition and Protection on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, in Indonesia it is quite often that the relevant authorities continuously ignore indigenous peoples' voice for better protection and promotion of their rights.

In many cases around the world, indigenous peoples are being target of restrictive policy, excessive usage of violence, arbitrary detention, torture by State actors, whereby various rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples are severely violated. Likewise, peace and security of and in the territories of indigenous peoples are quite often disturbed and destroyed by land grabbing, and rights violated by State and private actors in the name of development. Peaceful protests of indigenous peoples in Indonesia are often countered by violent and brutal treatment by the police, military and private security force in the name of "national security".

Mr. Chair and expert members,

We believe that all of us present here can share the view that indigenous peoples can effectively contribute to the establishment and maintenance of peace and security. At the same time, “development” or “national security” must not be used by State actors for justification of their violation of the rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. Most importantly, any efforts for establishing peace and security can and should go hand in hand with the protection and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples in full accordance with international standards including UNDRIP. A thematic study by EMRIP can enormously contribute to clarify the States’ obligation, opportunities for indigenous peoples and identify good practices in this regard.

Thank you.

AMMAN