

**7th Session of Expert Mechanism on the
Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

EM14 Nadir 080

Agenda item 5:

**Continuation of the study on access to justice in the
promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**Statement presented by
Nadir Bekirov, President of the
Foundation for Research and Support of Indigenous Peoples of Crimea**

Mr. Chairman! Brothers and Sisters!

EMRIP during its 7 years activity collected a great experience of what may and must be done if anybody is going to preserve and to promote the Indigenous identity, survive and development.

All these results are available as at the from reports as at the form of ready to use advices for the States and Governments.

Now nobody can say “We would like to do something good for our Indigenous Peoples but we don't know what and how”. This would be obvious lie. It should seem that the problems of Indigenous Peoples might be solved in a brief time and very effectively. Vice verse in some situations we see that our problems are being aggravated.

Some Governments have found a solution in the denying of the very fact of the existence of the Indigenous Peoples on the territories they control.

Long years it was being in Ukraine, where despite the provisions of the article 11 of the Constitution the State denied the Indigenous status of Crimean Tatar People. Paradoxically the question has been solved by positive way after the military conflict between Russia and Ukraine had begun for Crimea and Ukraine factually lost the control over Crimean territory.

At 20th of Marc 2014 Verkhovna Rada (Parliament of Ukraine) adopted Resolution on the Guarantees of Rights of the Crimean Tatar People in the Ukrainian State, where declared that Ukraine guarantees the preservation and development of ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of the Crimean Tatar People as the indigenous people, Ukraine guarantees the protection and implementation of the inherent right on self-

determination of the Crimean Tatar People, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine entrust the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to begin the process of accession of Ukraine to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

And at 23rd of May at the last day of 13rd session of UN PFII the delegation of Ukraine on behalf of the Government of Ukraine declared that Ukraine officially recognizes and support UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

From another side Russia, which abstained at the time of the voting of Declaration by UN GA at 2007 still continues to deny the status of Crimean Tatar People as an Indigenous one. All Russian mass-media and expert evaluations overfull-filled with the passages that there is not Indigenous People in Crimea or as a least that that is not Crimean Tatar People. At the meeting of the representatives of President of Russia with the representatives of Crimean Tatars at 16.05.2014 he stated that the recognition of Indigenous Status of our people may produce other problems. Certainly the recognition of Indigenous Status inescapably leads to the necessity of the recognition of the Rights of Indigenous People as well any respect to the Human Rights leads to the necessity of their observation.

Generalizing what I have said I would ask EMRIP to lunch the new study on the discrimination against Indigenous Peoples by the way of denying of Indigenous identity, Indigenous self-identification and neglecting of the existence of Indigenous Peoples on the territory. As I know this problem concerns not only Crimean Tatars but still is wide spread in the World.

Thank you for your attention!