

## Statement by the Delegation of Nepal

Annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples Theme: Impact of social and economic recovery plans in the COVID-19 context on indigenous peoples, with a special focus on food security 51st Session of the Human Rights Council Geneva, 28 September 2022

Time: 2 mins Words:255 As delivered.

## Madam Vice President,

Nepal thanks the Assistant Secretary General and distinguished panelists for their insightful remarks.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed a far-reaching multidimensional impact on lives of all including the indigenous communities. The surge in commodity price, loss of income and employment, and disruption of the food supply chains have forced the vulnerable communities into state of food insecurity.

The Constitution of Nepal has guaranteed food sovereignty and right to food security for all.

The Government is committed to achieving zero hunger goal of SDG by ensuring food and nutrition security for all.

The COVID-19 recovery plans in Nepal have focused on ensuring availability and accessibility to adequate food for people belonging to the vulnerable sections including indigenous communities.

The Government has taken initiatives of identifying targeted households in terms of food security, maintaining food supply during emergencies, promoting sustainable use of agricultural land, and promoting local food systems including that are climate resilient.

## Mr. Vice President,

We believe that the climate adaptive and resilient agricultural systems as well as the revitalization of local indigenous food system can enhance the food security measures. This calls for a concerted and integrated international response coupled with special measures for countries in vulnerable situations.

I thank you.