

The Report of the Krasnoyarsk Krai Northern Indigenous Population Communities Union Chairman

Dear Chairman and participants of the UN Working group on Indigenous Populations. I present you the report on the situation in the communities of the indigenous population in the North of Krasnoyarsk Krai in the Russian Federation.

The situation in the communities of the indigenous population in the North of Krasnoyarsk Krai in the Russian Federation can be described as unstable. Here are the main problem areas:

Firstly, there are no systematic conditions to support the traditional hunting and fishing ways and household supplies balance. They would make it possible for the indigenous communities to sell their products effectively. There is no framework such as - transportation and commercial firms, as a result the products are sold by chance at random price. Under such circumstances the situation in the traditional use of nature resources provides only the local vital needs of the indigenous population and the needs of individuals only. However, even this thrifty use is under the threat.

Here we can speak about the second problem; the rights of indigenous population on the territories of traditional hunting, fishing, collecting wild fruit and reindeer breeding areas are not legalized. Firstly the rights of the indigenous population to use the forest and the land are on pecuniary bases. The aboriginal population has to pay the rent for the land and forest they have always lived on. There exists the "Law on the Traditional Use of Land" which is about the free use of land but it has not become valid up to now. Secondly, to obtain the right of land and resources Use which are demanded from a person include a lot of documents which are rather complicated so special services of land use must be involved, besides special developments of ecologically friendly regimes of nature use etc. The expertise services required to provide all these documents to be prepared qualitatively are very expensive and the indigenous communities can not afford such ones. Under such circumstances the indigenous communities are being squeezed out from the areas where they have lived for ever by the industrial companies which can afford all the necessary arrangements.

Secondly there are no legislative bases Bills on the level of Krasnoyarsk Krai to regulate all the spheres of life support of the northern indigenous communities in Krasnoyarsk Krai: there is no Law on Reindeer breeding, on Ethnological Expertise and others. The existing laws of Krasnoyarsk Krai "On Legal Rights of the Northern Indigenous Populations of Krasnoyarsk Krai", 01.07.03. Nr. 7-1215 and "On State Support of Traditional Welfare of the Northern Indigenous Populations of Krasnoyarsk Krai" 06.07.04 Nr. 11-2212 are like general guidelines which are copied from the federal law.

Krasnoyarsk Krai special programmes "The Northern Communities" are not implemented to the full extent besides the Krai Laws are not being observed. In 2005 in the programme "The Northern Communities" the line of budget aimed at financing the Northern indigenous communities the transportation means purchase and for the development of the traditional welfare activities were not carried out. Despite all these facts the Northern indigenous communities of Krasnoyarsk Krai started to unite. And on the 3rd of August 2005 there was registered the Krasnoyarsk Krai Northern indigenous populations communities Union. The main directions in the activities of the union are bringing together all the indigenous communities to defend social, economic, ethnic and cultural rights and the development of national self esteem.

Thank you for your attention,
Chairman of the Union

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