

Statement by the Delegation of Nepal Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 51st session of the Human Rights Council Geneva, 28 Sep 2022

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Mr. President,

Nepal thanks the Special Rapporteur for the presentation of the report.

My delegation views that promotion and protection of human rights of indigenous peoples, including women remains crucial in preserving scientific and technical indigenous knowledge.

The Constitution of Nepal in its state policies has made special arrangements to ensure the rights of indigenous nationalities to live with dignity, along with their identity and to protect and promote traditional knowledge, skill, culture, social tradition and experience of indigenous nationalities and local communities. It also guarantees citizens' right to receive education in mother tongue.

The Indigenous Nationalities Commission, a constitutional body established as per the provision in article 261 of the Constitution of Nepal, is responsible to conduct study and research work for protecting the rights and interests of indigenous nationalities.

The current 15th development plan of Nepal has given emphasis on the promotion and protection of rural labour force, indigenous and local knowledge, skills and technologies for rural development.

Mr. President,

We are keen to hear from the Special Rapporteur as to what concrete measures could be taken to check the disappearance of indigenous languages at critical rate.

I thank you.