

The 39th Session of the Human Rights Council, UN Office, Geneva
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Agenda Item 6: UPR Outcomes of Bangladesh
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Thank you Mr. President.

Excellency,

We thank you to Bangladesh government for the adoption and accept the UPR recommendations to promote, protect and respect human rights in Bangladesh. We welcome the decision of the Bangladesh government accepting the recommendations to implement the Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord. It is urgent to take effective measures implementing the basic points of the Accord, which are yet to be implemented, for the peace, development, and prosperity and for the greater interest of the country.

Your Excellency,

We deeply regret and very disappointed that Bangladesh government has denied and rejected the recommendations on the recognition and policy development to ensure indigenous peoples human rights. Particularly the recommendation number 149.57, 149.58 and 149.59 by Honduras, Iran and Peru.

It is indeed would be a significant to accept those recommendations on the Indigenous Peoples in Bangladesh. Indigenous peoples are among those have been facing systematic gross human rights violations. According to the *Kapaeeng Foundation's* report, more than 50 cases of violence against indigenous women with 58 victims in 2016 alone, 48 such cases with 57 victims in 2017 and there have been at least 40 indigenous women and girls were subjected to kill, rape, sexual harassment in Bangladesh from January to August 2018. Unfortunately, the Government has not taken yet any special measure to ensure safety and security of the indigenous women and children against all forms of violence and discrimination. Moreover, there is a growing trend of cases of arbitrary arrest, detention and enforced disappearance in the country, particularly indigenous human rights defenders and indigenous political activists by the security forces.

However, we look forward a concrete step by the Bangladesh government to fully implement the UPR recommendations, including the CHT Accord, and we urge to take special measures to promote, protect and respect indigenous peoples' human rights.

We express sincere gratitude to the government of Australia, Denmark, Maldives, New Zealand, Honduras, Iran, Peru and other countries for raising our concerns in the periodic review.

Last, not least, I wish to express my gratitude to the UN Voluntary Fund for allowing me to participate in this session.

Thank you Mr President.