

Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The role of the UN, and other human rights and development actors in advancing the participation of minorities in poverty reduction and development strategies in South East Asia

Regional Consultation

Bangkok, 25-26 September 2012, the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel

Draft Agenda

Day 1	Tuesday, 25 September 2012 <i>Chair: Ms. Heisoo Shin, Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</i>
8.30 - 9.00	Registration
9.00 - 9.30	Introductory remarks <i>Ms. Matilda Bogner, Regional Representative for South East Asia, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</i> <i>Mr. Luc Stevens, UN Resident Coordinator, Thailand</i>
9.30 - 10.45	Session I Scope of minority rights protection: The right to effective participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mandate of the Independent Expert on minority issues</i> • <i>The Forum on minority issues</i> • <i>OHCHR activities in the promotion and protection of the rights of minorities</i> <i>Speakers</i> <i>Ms. Michèle Buteau; Human Rights Officer, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch OHCHR (ROLENDB)</i> <i>Ms. Belen Rodriguez de Alba, Human Rights Officer, ROLENDB</i>

	Discussion
10.45 – 11.00	Coffee Break
11.00– 12.30	<p>Session II Identifying barriers to minorities participation in development: Root causes of poverty</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Niran Pitakwhatchara, Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand</i> <i>Mrs. Elvira Dominguez-Redondo, Senior Lecturer in Law Middlesex University, London</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
14.00-16.00	<p>Session III Mainstreaming minority rights in country poverty reduction strategies and policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy responses that work within the context of the Millennium Development Goals • The role of a Human Rights based approach • Effective participation of minorities in poverty reduction strategies • The right to education as a fundamental gateway to development and poverty eradication for minorities <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Bijaya Rajbhandari, UNICEF Representative in Thailand</i> <i>Mr. Marcus Bran, UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Center UN Habitat (speaker to be confirmed)</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
16.00-16.15	Coffee break
16.15-17.30	<p>Session III cont'd: Targeted approaches and good practices (specific country examples)</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Louise Nylin, UN Coordination Specialist. Resident Coordinator's Office, Viet Nam</i></p>

	<p><i>Other speaker to be confirmed</i></p> <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <p>Chairs' summary</p>
Day 2	<p>Wednesday, 26 September 2012</p> <p>Chair: <i>Ms. Elvira Dominguez-Redondo, Senior Lecturer in Law Middlesex University, London</i></p>
9.00-10.30	<p>Session IV</p> <p>Effective and meaningful participation of minorities in country strategy development process: role of NHRIs and civil society actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming the rights of minorities into development policies • Strengthening capacity of NHRIs and civil society actors • Policy responses for human development that include minority communities <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Answer Styannes, Asia Human Rights Commission</i> <i>Mr. Veerawit Tianchainan, Chair, Southeast Asia Working Group Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
10.30-10.45	Coffee break
10.45-12.30	<p>Session V</p> <p>Securing land rights for minorities: role of the Government and participation of minorities in land related decision-making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loss of land and livelihood and its impact on minority communities • Minority communities and natural resource development that is consensual and respectful of their rights <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Nicole Girard, Minority Rights Group International (MRG)</i></p>

	<p><i>Mr. Pijush Kumar Barman, Programme Manager for Capacity Enhancement of Indigenous Peoples Project Implemented by Community Health Care Project, DFID</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
12.30 -14.00	Lunch
14.00 -15.00	<p>Session VI Effective participation of minority women in development processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of minority women in poverty reduction strategies • Special measures to address exclusion and multiple forms of discrimination • Redressing socio-economic inequities of minority women at the national level <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Heisoo Shin, Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights UN Women -speaker to be confirmed</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
15.00 -16.45	<p>Session VII The role of the UN system in building capacity on minority issues at the national level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities and constraints for UN entities to work on minority issues in the region, share good practices • Protection of minority rights as a means to strengthen development effectiveness • Mainstreaming inclusion of minorities in UN projects • Promoting specific projects to benefit minorities <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Alcestis Abrera-Mangaha, Officer in Charge, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Maria Corinna Miguel-Quicho, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Anne Harmer, Regional Programme Coordinator, UNFPA</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Yu Kanosue, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR Regional Office for South East Asia</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Marco Roncarati, Officer-in-Charge, Social, Policy and Population Section, Social Development Division</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
16.45-17.00	Coffee break
17.00-17.30	<p>Chairs' summary</p> <p>Closing remarks: <i>Ms. Matilda Bogner, Regional Representative OHCHR</i></p>

