International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

First Conference of the States Parties
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Item 6 of the agenda

Co-Chair (on line Chair, Mr. Chair)

Thank You, Mr. Chairman,

I have the pleasure to read out the statement of North East Dialogue Forum, an NGO from India.

Mr. Chair, Mr. Chair, Mr. Chairman, Dear Mr. Chairman,

We welcome the decision taken by the States Parties to the International Convention on Enforced Disappearance to continue the much-needed work of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Despite being young, the Committee has already left its important footprint. Moreover, it has been dealing with an extremely complex and multifaceted crime. Not only do enforced disappearances hinder human dignity and the very human rights to life and liberty, but they also become torture and constant suffering for relatives and loved ones.

Quoting the wise words of Professor Teo Van Boven: "It fits in this pattern that the trilogy of basic justice, consisting of the right to know the truth, the right to justice and the right to reparation, finds clear expression in one of the newest core international human rights treaties: the 2006 International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance."

Sadly, enforced disappearances are still frequently used as a strategy to spread terror and create insecurity and fear within the society, and they have become a tool in the hands of military dictatorships and terrorist groups. In light of this unchanged reality, the work of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances is more vital than ever.

Mr. Chairman, Co-Chair, ladies and gentlemen,

We call on all States to take all the necessary steps to ratify and implement the Convention, and to recognize the competence of the Committee on individual communications.

We call on the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED):

- to strengthen the country visit mechanism and to appoint a team (in necessary countries) to conduct fact finding and follow-up the urgent cases,
- to further develop its ability to deal with requests for urgent actions,
- to submit concrete recommendations to the states to rehabilitate and compensate the victim's families and provide adequate support.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.