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30 August 2013

Excellency,

I write to inform you that in the course of its 83rd session, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination continued the consideration of the alleged ongoing persecution of indigenous leaders in Limbuwan, Nepal. The Committee wishes to acknowledge receipt and to thank the State party for its reply of 20 February 2013 in response to the letter from the Committee of 31 August 2012 concerning the above situation and notes the information contained therein.

In particular, the Committee takes note that a new Constitution is in the process of being drafted and that the State party has expressed its commitment to ensure the meaningful and active participation of all communities, including indigenous peoples, in the Constitution-making process. The Committee also takes note of information indicating that the State party is making all-out efforts for fulfilling the responsibility of carrying out an inclusive democratic and progressive restructuring of the State in order to address the problems related, inter alia, to indigenous peoples and national minorities.

The Committee requests that the State party provide information on any additional measures taken to improve the situation of Limbuwan people as well as on the extent to which the Limbuwan people are involved in the Constitution-making process. The Committee would also welcome information on measures taken to engage in dialogue with them in relation to their rights to political participation, freedom of assembly, and freedom of expression as well as the results of this dialogue.

The Committee appreciates the commitment by the State party to submit its seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth periodic reports overdue since 1 March 2008. In accordance with Article 9 (1) of the Convention and article 65 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee requests the State party to include the information requested above in these reports and encourages it to submit the reports as soon as possible.

His Excellency
Mr. Shanker Das Bairagi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva
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Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of Nepal with a view to promoting the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,
Almandonial,

Alexei Avtonomov

Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination