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HAUT COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME



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Excellency,

The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Permanent Mission of the Philippines in Geneva for the briefing it received, at its seventy-third session, held from 28 July to 15 August 2008, concerning the community of the Subanon of Mount Canatuan, Siocon, Zambonga del Norte, and their land claims.

The briefing has helped to add to the Committee's understanding of the facts of the situation, bearing in mind also that the State party's periodic report submitted in June 2008, though addressing indigenous issues in general terms, does not specifically comment on the situation of the Community of the Subanon.

However, in light of the fact that contradictory information has been received on this issue from different sources, the Committee would appreciate receiving a written note of the points made during the briefing, in addition to any further information which the State party may wish to provide.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to pursue a constructive dialogue with your Government, and to underline that the Committee's observations and request for further information are made with a view to assisting your Government in the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Dah'.

Fatimata-Binta Victoire Dah  
Chairperson of the Committee for the  
Elimination of Racial Discrimination

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