

Thank you Madam Chair, the Samburu and Nomadic Pastoralists Community are a recognised minority and marginalised groups in the new Kenya constitution and also in the 2009 national population census. Both democratic and undemocratic government the place occupied by the Samburu community of late has been treated with keen interest as a result of the related conflict and the government of Kenya treat it as a conflict flash point. Ignoring the unique importance of the minority participation building a nation always and had negative result causing adverse socio-economic problem for a long period. For this reason many nation including Kenya have come to realise the role of minority and have enacted laws that visibly increase their participation in national building process.

The UN instruments that recognise minorities and indigenous tribal peoples rights in places like Kenya, minority like Samburu saw themselves given a raw deal. They lost their land during colonisation and marginalised by successive regimes in terms of development, infrastructure, education, and water resources. Recognising is not sufficient but the enforcement and ratification of the declaration so that the government have a platform for them. Recently in Kenya a new constitution was historically passed, which comes with a lot of good packages for the minorities and like the former constitution, the new one decentralised arm of government puts more power to the low level where the communities get the opportunity to change the path to development. This has been the greatest gift for minorities in Kenya, but it remains to be seen how much of this power will be given out during implementation in execution of the new constitution. Another fundamental issues is civic education, it is not sufficient to give more legislation, power to the people without giving adequate information on how to use the same appropriately. We welcome the recommendation on paragraph 25 on the minority communities are consistently given high priority to equal access to quality education, and we wish to include pastoral children in conflict zone and their economic participation.

We therefore humbly recommend the Human Rights Council forum on minority issues to ensure effective monitoring and compliances with UN Declaration on Minority Rights and UNDP XX to mainstream minority rights into economic poverty reduction in the MGDs plans to protect minorities from discrimination policies. Finally madam chair we strongly support the UN recommendation on paragraph 48 on the creation of a voluntary fund for the minorities, to help to confront the challenges from diminishing national resources XX and also land conflicts which as a result of increasing conflict in the Horn of and region of Africa and confronting the global warming XX and to help promote more imperative due to changing global dynamics.

Thank you Madam Chair.