

Peoples' Republic of China on item II

Thank you Mr Chairman. First of all I would like to ask this Secretariat to change the name of 'China' that is shown on the screen to the right term. Thank you, Secretariat. Mr Chairman, we welcome NGOs participation in this Forum. At the same time, the UN Forum should be a place to promote cooperation and constructive dialogue. All countries, should abide by the UN Charter and principles. We firmly oppose separatists to abuse the forum to express their separatists views and encroach on sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states. China is a unified multi-ethnic country and adheres to equal rights and unity among ethnic groups; and China practices a system of regional autonomy of ethnic groups. Under the leadership of central government ethnic minorities practice autonomy within the areas concentrated population and establish their bodies and exercise their rights. In recent years, they are working in various fields and ethnic regions have developed nicely. The rights of ethnic minorities are being effectively protected. The freedoms of religion, customs and traditions and the right to use and develop the written and oral languages of ethnic minorities have been fully reflected. In the new National Action Plan for Human Rights, the government took accelerating the development of ethnic minorities as priority and clearly stipulated that government protects ethnic minority rights to equally participate in and manage state social affairs and increase abilities of their ethnic minority groups for political participation, protect the right to economic development and increase social input to ensure that by 2020 that ethnic regions in general absolute poverty will be eliminated. We ensure equal rights for ethnic minorities to public services and facilities preferential allocations to ethnic regions; and guarantee ethnic minorities right to education and strengthen bilingual education in ethnic regions and protect and carry forward traditions of ethnic minorities. Thank you sir.