

Speaker: Excellencies, delegates and my dear friends. My name is [inaudible], representing the national campaign of [inaudible] in India. I am very honored to be here, to speak about the [inaudible] of the distinct communities, discriminated against based upon descent. At the outset, I would like to acknowledge the esteemed speaker, Special Rapporteur [inaudible]... sufficient protection of the communities. My intervention focuses on and raises the question; the current mechanism and instrument adequately cover discriminatory practices based on social hierarchy and class-like structures based on descent and ancestral occupation. The upholdment of practices approximately affect 200 million people globally. The caste system in Asia is the most commonly known descent-based discrimination. But in Africa, Latin America, also in Europe the [inaudible] of descent based discrimination is also common and forced through the complex cultural beliefs and behavioral system. The [inaudible] in Africa, the Roma people across the globe, the [inaudible] in Japan and the Quilombola in Brazil are a selection of various groups who experience oppression through discrimination based on caste and descent. In addition, sexual violence, gender based violence and the enslavement of women and girls and [inaudible] of reproductive rights is a common enforcement mechanism of the imposed social order.