



Oral intervention – good practices and positive examples of promoting minority rights

Session 4

Submitted to: United Nations Forum on Minority Issues.

Submitted by: Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights (holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council).

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Thank you, Mr. President

Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights attaches special importance to this fourth item because exchanging good practices and good experiences related to minorities may lead to further steps to enhance the rights of minorities, especially in the Middle East region.

Mr. president

The continued holding of the Regional Forum for Minorities in the Middle East and Africa represents a platform for dialogue among all stakeholders, a useful tool for exchanging good practices and positive examples of the integration of minorities into communities located in the region. Maat Foundation supports the recommendation contained in the Regional Forum for Minorities in the Middle East and Africa, which is based on urging the High Commission to allow greater regional participation, especially on the Internet, for non-governmental organizations and other minorities who often lack the resources necessary to attend conferences in person in Geneva¹. Or in other regional areas.

¹ This recommendation came at the Regional Forum for Minorities in the Middle East and Africa, which was held from June 15 to 16, 2021.

Mr. president,

Maat Foundation appreciates what was stated in the outcomes of the first phase of the Egyptian National Dialogue, which was published in August 2023, regarding the necessity of implementing the constitutional text contained in the text of Article 53 regarding the issuance of a law regulating the establishment and management of the Commission for the Prevention of Discrimination, and Maat Foundation calls for the generalization of the establishment of commissions to combat discrimination, including against minorities. In countries of the Middle East and North Africa region.

Maat Foundation also believes that the Human Fraternity Document announced in February 2019 may enhance the rights of members of minorities, especially religious minorities in the Middle East region. Maat Foundation calls on donors to take additional steps to support the implementation of the provisions of this document. Finally, the Foundation calls for allowing greater participation of civil society organizations in regional forums for the Middle East and Africa and considering providing resources for these organizations to travel and move to the venues of these forums.