

## All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch (ADMAM)

Thank you Chair. My name is [inaudible] and I speak on behalf of All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch, a national, grassroots movement led by Dalit women in India and a member of the International Dalit Solidarity Network. Building trust and social cohesion requires acknowledging the structural barriers faced by minority communities, including Dalits who are among those discriminated against on the basis of work and descent. Within these communities, Dalit women face three-fold discrimination at the intersection caste, class, and gender. Nearly 97 million Dalit women in India experience systematic caste- and gender-based discrimination, limiting their access to land, education, fair wages, and justice. Data from 2022 of the National Crimes Records Bureau show the scale of violence. Crimes against Dalit women increased by 78% from 2014 to 2022. Over 62,000 incidents were recorded and more than 11 Dalit women and girls are raped every single day. Despite constitutional protection, such as Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Prevention of Atrocities Act, implementations remain weak. Conviction rates are only 28% and case pendency stands at 91%, reinforcing impunity and eroding trust in institutions. ADMAM works to bridge the gap between the state and Dalit women by supporting survivors in the justice system and strengthening grassroots leadership. When institutions act with fairness and dignity, trust is rebuilt and genuine social cohesion becomes possible. Dalit women are not only survivors, but also leaders, peacebuilders, and human rights defenders. Their meaningful participation is essential for reducing prejudice and strengthening accountability. We call on countries to ensure effective implementation of protective laws, invest in Dalit women's leadership, promote education and institutional reform to counter discrimination. We urge the United Nations to prioritize [cut off by Chair].