

Feminist Dalit Organization

Thank you, Madame Chair. I am [inaudible] from Nepal, representing the Feminist Dalit Organization and the International Dalit Solidarity Network. Caste- and gender-induced discrimination in Nepal continues to undermine trust and cohesion. Despite constitutional guarantees of equality and obligations under SDG 5, 10, and 16, ICERD, CEDAW, and the UN Declaration on Minority Rights, Dalit women and girls face compounded exclusion, social segregations, violence, and barriers to justice, fueled by prejudice and normalized impunity. Evidence shows that 49.1% of Dalit women and girls encounter violence, while only 5% of the incidents are formally registered. The evidence also shows persistent denial of services, discriminatory legal practices, and limited political participation of women in [inaudible] province. However, positive local practices, including intersectional women's voices from the grass-roots levels, digital literacy initiatives, and strengthening front-line leadership, demonstrate that change is possible when Dalit women's voices are heard to solutions. We urge to ensure enforcement of caste-based discrimination laws, invest in Dalit women- and girls-led organizations, strengthen accountability systems, integrate caste into the global minority rights framework. We call for sustained actions to ensure dignity, equal participation, and peaceful coexistence for all. Thank you.