

My name is Kashif Khan, I am here from Toronto, Canada, a country rich with multiculturalism, inclusiveness and diverseness. My talk today is primarily based on exposure I have had as a community member interacting, interviewing, studying and, working with multiple minority individuals from around the world.

Through active public communication, I have discussed many human rights issues with different groups. Just to share 1 incident, a minority student faced racism in College. How he dealt with it was different as he communicated his message widely so that everyone, those that are directly involved and those unaware of it recognize the issue and work on a resolution.

There are multiple live examples that can be shared but, these are all individual attempts, I am here today to address how minority groups can highlight their presence publicly with communication tools facilitated to them through human right bodies.

My action oriented solution is that minority groups should be facilitated with a communication mechanism in their region which involves local and international human right bodies. This mechanism should be designed in 2 sections, one section involving local public alternatives to actively highlight and demonstrate

credible successful accomplishments achieved by minorities. The 2nd section should involve communication with local and international human rights groups in the region that have a strong affiliation with local governments and other bodies such as OHCHR. Such a mechanism will be an asset to minorities by not only empowering them through their accomplishments but also making available the resources to address their challenges through international and local support. Simultaneously, human rights bodies will also have reliable qualified data to assess situations.

To conclude, minority groups have great challenges and by empowering them with the resources of actively communicating publicly their contributions and addressing their challenges as minority will demonstrate to the majority that minorities are a part of maintaining peace and sustainability. With this I would like to thank the president, special rapporteur and, members at OHCHR for allowing me this opportunity to speak. I also thank every delegate for participating in this forum, sharing your recommendation and I look forward towards working with you all on a collective solution to this issue. Thank you.