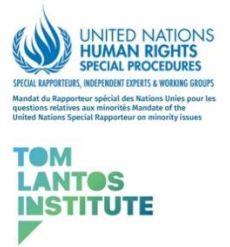




Asia - Pacific Regional Forum on  
conflict prevention and  
the protection of the  
human rights of minorities

7-8 September, 2021 | ONLINE MEETING



## Statements

The views and/or opinions expressed in the contributions listed below are those of the contributing organizations and do not reflect in any way the views and/or opinions of the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, the Tom Lantos Institute or cooperating organizations. Neither are they responsible for the content of the organizations' views and/or opinions. The use and posting of the contributions do not provide any legal and/or other status to the contributing organizations or association with the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, the Tom Lantos Institute or cooperating organizations.

Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Session 1: Opening Remarks

<b>Kanni Wignaraja</b>	Assistant Secretary-General, Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP
<b>Heike Alefsen</b>	Regional Representative, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office for the Pacific
<b>Katia Chirizzi</b>	Deputy Regional Representative, OHCHR South East Asia
<b>Fernand de Varennes,</b>	United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
Chair: <b>Anna-Mária Bíró,</b>	Director, Tom Lantos Institute

### Thematic Session 1: Substantive root causes of contemporary conflicts involving minorities

#### Invited Speakers

<b>Sajjad Hassan</b> (Moderator)	Founder member, South Asia Collective
<b>Rita Manchanda</b>	Research Director, South Asia Forum for Human Rights
<b>Kamarulzaman Askandar</b>	Research and Education for Peace, School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia
<b>Rode Wanimbo</b>	human rights activist and head of the women's department of the GIDI Church

## List of participants who took the floor

1. International Campaign for Tibet
2. International Human Rights Council
3. Mahmûd Abdul Matheen, Global Minority Fellow - OHCHR
4. Aceh-Sumatra National Liberation Front
5. West Papua Human Rights Center
6. Indonesia
7. China
8. Siti Kasim
9. Mohamed Fawas Farook

## Thematic Session 2: Normative framework: the human rights of minorities and conflict prevention

### Invited Speakers

<b>Radhika Coomaraswamy</b> (moderator)	Member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation
<b>Mohna Ansari</b>	Former member National Human Rights Commission of Nepal
<b>Mohammad Shahabuddin</b>	Chair in International Law & Human Rights, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
<b>Tehmina Arora</b>	Director of Advocacy, Asia, ADF International

## List of participants who took the floor

1. Malaysian Human Rights Commission
2. International Human Rights Committee
3. China
4. Sajjad Hassan

Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Thematic Session 3: Obstacles to implementing the rights of minorities and early effective conflict prevention

#### Invited Speakers

<b>Shamini Darshni Kaliemuthu (Moderator)</b>	Executive Director, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)
<b>Miriam Coronel-Ferrer</b>	Professor of Political Science, University of the Philippines
<b>Cecil Shane Chaudhry</b>	South Asia Deputy Team Leader, Christian Solidarity Worldwide
<b>James Tanis</b>	former President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville and former secretary of Bougainville's Department of Peace Agreement Implementation

#### List of participants who took the floor

1. Jeroen Zandberg
2. Human Rights Alliance Bangladesh (HRAB)
3. Beijing Women's International Center
4. PacificwinPacific & Pacific Australian Womens Association
5. Peace welfare and development Association
6. Kamaleswary Letchumanan
7. Indonesia
8. China

Thematic Session 4: Ways forward towards addressing gaps in human rights mechanisms to protect minorities and prevent conflicts

#### Invited Speakers

<b>Taisuke Komatsu (Moderator)</b>	Under-Secretary General, International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)
<b>Jewher Ilham</b>	author and human rights activist

**Farah Mihar**                      Lecturer, College of Social Sciences and International Studies, University of Exeter

**Anchana Heemmina**      Founder and director, Duay Jai Group

#### List of participants who took the floor

1. Coalition for Genocide Response
2. China
3. International Human Rights Committee
4. Hassan Ali Faiz
5. Human Rights Alliance Bangladesh
6. Coalition for Genocide Response
7. Sikh Human Rights Group
8. International Human Rights Council

#### Presentation of Recommendations

Fernand de Varennes	UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
Marcus Oda	Programme Manager, Tom Lantos Institute
Anna-Mária Bíró (Chair)	Director, Tom Lantos Institute

#### Concluding Remarks

Fernand de Varennes	UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
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