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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[30 January 2023]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Cultural Rights

Cultural rights are vested not in individuals but in groups, such as religious and ethnic minorities and indigenous societies. All cultures are brought up differently, therefore cultural rights include a group's ability to preserve its culture, to raise its children in the ways its forebears, to continue its language and not be deprived of its economic base in which it is located. Country like India where the Indian government denoted to provide cultural rights to the Mukkulathor people of Tamil Nadu's Paalamedu area of Madurai. In 2014 The Indian government banned a cultural event named Jallikattu. Jallikattu is considered to be a bio-cultural sport as it helps to conserve native cattle breeds. But unfortunately, the government of India banned Jallikattu on May 7, 2014. However, Jallikattu continued under the Tamil Nadu Regulation of Jallikattu Act No 27 of 2009 brought out by the then M Karunanidhi government. The ban, many fans argued, was an assault on Tamil pride. Supporters also claim that jallikattu also helps them to identify strong bulls for breeding. From 2014 to till to date this event is banned.

Jallikattu a practice which is centuries-old and symbolic identity of a community can be regulated and reformed as the human race evolves rather than being completely obliterated. It will be viewed as hostile to culture and against the sensitivities of the community. The people of Tamil Nadu have a right to preserve their traditions and culture. Many cultural rights defenders and Mukkulathor people of Tamil Nadu are protesting against this initiative of Indian government since 2014. But the Indian government denied the permission to celebrate this event again. Moreover, many protesters have been arrested. We urge this council to ask Indian government to stop violation of cultural rights and allow Mukkulathor people of Tamil Nadu to celebrate their cultural events.
