

Description of

Delegation of ICCA Network Nepal Members (13th and 14th February 2012)

Introduction:

ICCA Network Nepal has been involving in constant dialogues with government officials and representatives for their legal recognitions. They are also trying to expand their networking with other community organizations. With the aim of furthering their dialogues with government officials and concerned departments, the 7 member ICCA delegates went to the Department of Forest and soil Conservation, Department of Forest, and Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation on 13th and 14th February 2012 and submitted their written demand letter. They also went to the Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities for the request for support and collaboration in their dialogues, discussions and policy advocacy.

Brief Description of their Delegation:

1. **Phadindra Raj Kharel (Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation):** Kharel is a Planning officer for this department. The delegation team members went to the department (Babarmahal, Kathmandu) and then shared their issues and concerns with Mr. Kharel and submitted their written demand letter to the department through him. According to the delegation team members, Mr. Kharel verbally appreciated their issues and concerns and committed to support them in policy making processes. He suggested the delegates to use organizational pad letter to submit such written demands and letters. The delegate team also tried to meet Director General and other officials at the department but due to the unavailability of their time it did not become possible.
2. **Bajrakishor Yadav (Department of Forest):** Yadav is Director General in the department. The delegation team members went to the department (Babarmahal, Kathmandu) and then shared their issues and concerns and then submitted their written demand letter to him. According to the delegation team members, Yadav asked about

the status of ICCA and its conservation practices and finally made verbal commitments to organize wider discussion about ICCA issues, concerns and policy formulation.

- 3. Honorable Minister, Muhamad Okil (Ministry of Forest And Soil Conservation):** The delegation team members went to the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation in Singhadarbar, Kathmandu and then shared their issues, concerns and submitted their written demand letter. According to the delegation team members, Honorable minister shared his critical opinion about the way, process and issues they have shared with. The delegation team members said the even the honorable minister indirectly blamed them by saying that such works are mostly supported and manipulated by NGO and INGOs. However, the honorable minister showed his interest to learn about ICCA and verbally made his commitment to further their issues in the cabinet and the department as well.

Nabin Ghimire (Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation): Ghimire is a secretary in the ministry of forest and soil conservation. The delegation team members shared their issues and concerns with him in same as they did with others. According to the delegation team members, Ghimire also verbally showed his positive remarks about ICCA and their demands.

Yak Narayan Aryal (Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation): Aryal is Under-secretary (Administration) in this ministry. The delegation team shared their issues and concerns with him as well. According to them he also showed his positive remarks and verbally committed to support them in their demand.

Harihar Sigdel (Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation): Sigdel is planning head for this ministry. The delegation team members shared their issues and concern same as they did with others. According to the delegation team members, Aryal also made his positive remarks about their issues and concerns and also made his verbal commitments to help them in their concerns.

4. Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN): The delegation team members also went to the NEFIN office in Sanepa, Lalitpur and met with representatives in the office. According to the delegation team members, the delegation team members shared their issues and concerns they are raising since long time and requested the NEFIN to support and cooperate in their dialogues and advocacy campaigns. They also requested to search the avenues for joint efforts and possible collaborations. The NEFIN members verbally made their commitments to support and help in their campaigns as they can.

Demand letter submitted by the Network:

आदिवासी जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायद्वारा संरक्षित क्षेत्र (आइसिसिए) नेटवर्क नेपालको मागपत्र

मिति: ११/११/२०६७

नेपाल जैविक विविधताका हिसावले मात्रै नभई सांस्कृतिक विविधताका दृष्टिले पनि धनी छ। यस सन्दर्भमा देशका विभिन्न ठाउँहरूमा रहेका आदिवासी जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायहरूले उनीहरूको परम्परागत ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूको माध्यमहरूबाट स्थानीय स्तरमा रहेका जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षण गर्दै आएका छन्। यसरी जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षण गर्ने काम उनीहरूले युगौ युग देखि निरन्तर गर्दै आएका छन्। यद्यपि उनीहरूको यस्तो ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूको सम्मान राज्यले गर्न सकिरहेको छैन।

जैविक विविधताको संरक्षण गर्नु हामी सबैको कर्तव्य हो। जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षण गर्ने उद्देश्यका साथ देशमा धुप्रे ऐन, कानून, तथा नीति नियमहरू बनिसकेका छन्। यद्यपि हालका कानुनी तथा नितिगत प्रावधानहरूले आदिवासी जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायहरूले जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षणमा युगौ देखि खेल्दै आएको भूमिका तथा योगदानको न त सम्मान गर्न सकेका छन् न कानुनी मान्यता नै प्रदान गरेका छन्। वरु संरक्षणका विद्यमान धेरै जसो ऐन कानूनहरूले उनीहरूको परम्परागत ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूलाई कमजोर बनाउने काम गरेका छन्।

जैविक विविधताहरूको संरक्षण गर्ने काममा आदिवासी जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायहरूले खेल्दै आएको योगदान तथा भूमिकाहरूलाई मान्यता प्रदान गर्न धुप्रे अन्तराष्ट्रिय कानुनी तथा नितिगत आधारहरू बनिसकेका छन्। जस्तै जैविक विविधता सम्बन्धि महासन्धी १९९२ र यससँग सम्बन्धित विभिन्न अन्तराष्ट्रिय बेलाहरूले गरेका निर्णयहरूले जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षणका विषयमा आदिवासी जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायहरूको ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूलाई आदिवासि तथा स्थानीय समुदायद्वारा संरक्षित क्षेत्र अथवा आइसिसिए (Indigenous Community Conserved Areas) का नाममा मान्यता दिएका छन्।

यही पृष्ठभूमिमा देशका विभिन्न ठाउँहरूमा रहेका आइसिसिए का प्रतिनिधिहरू आफ्नो क्षेत्रमा गर्दै आएका संरक्षणको विषयमा निरन्तर छलफल गर्दै आएका छन्। ती बेलाहरूमा उनीहरूले संरक्षणका विषयमा खेल्दै आएका भूमिकाहरूले कानुनी मान्यता प्राप्त गर्नु पर्ने विषयलाई प्रमुख मुद्दा बनाई विगत केही वर्ष देखि संगठित हुँदै आएका छन्। यही क्रममा गत २०६७ सालमा आइसिसिए नेटवर्क नेपाल गठन भएको छ। यही नेटवर्कले आइसिसिएहरूका विषयमा निम्नानुसारका मागहरू पेश गर्न चाहन्छ।

१. आदिवासि जनजाति तथा स्थानीय समुदायहरूको जैविक विविधता तथा प्राकृतिक स्रोतहरूको संरक्षणसँग सम्बन्धित परम्परागत ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूका साथै ती आइसिसिएका क्षेत्रहरूलाई राज्य तथा संरक्षणसँग सम्बन्धित निकायहरूद्वारा सम्मान प्रदान गरियोस्।
२. उनीहरूको परम्परागत ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूले कानुनी मान्यता प्राप्त गर्नका लागि देशमा विद्यमान ऐन, कानून तथा नीति नियमहरूलाई परिमार्जन गरियोस्। यसरी परिमार्जित ऐन, कानून तथा नीति नियमहरूले अन्तराष्ट्रिय स्तरमा मान्यता प्राप्त तथा स्विकार गरिएको संरक्षणका कानुनी तथा नितिगत विषयहरूलाई समेट्न सकोस्।
३. आइसिसिएहरूको ज्ञान, सिप तथा अभ्यासहरूको सम्मान तथा कानुनी मान्यताका लागि राज्यले आवश्यक संयन्त्रको निर्माण गरी आम सरोकारवालाहरूसँग वृहत छलफलको काम अगाडि बढाओस्। उक्त छलफलमा आइसिसिए नेटवर्क नेपाल आवश्यक सहयोग गर्न तयार छ।

आइसिसिए नेटवर्क नेपालका पदाधिकारीहरू:

१. तेन्जिङ टासी सेर्पा (अध्यक्ष)

२. मन बहादुर गुरुङ (सदस्य)

३. गोपाल गुरुङ (सदस्य)

४. धन केसर वस्नेत (सदस्य)

५. गोपिका गुरुङ (सदस्य)

६. भोजबहादुर गुराज (सदस्य)

७. आइ.सि.ए. नेटवर्क नेपाल (सदस्य)

Some Photos from Delegation Team:



ICCA Delegate Members waiting to meet officials in front of DNPWC building



The chair of ICCA Delegates (Tenzing Tashi Sherpa) submitting their demand letter at DNPWC to Official (Phadindra Raj Kharel-first in the right)



ICCA delegates sharing their issues and concerns with Nabin Ghimire (Secretary, Administration-first in the right) at Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation



ICCA delegates sharing their issues and concerns with DG (Department of Forest-first in the right)- Bajrakishor Yadav



ICCA Delegates sharing their concerns with government official (Yak Narayan Aryal-first in the right) in the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation



ICCA Delegates submitting their demand letters submitted to the concerned department and ministry to the official at NEFIN (first in the left)



ICCA Network members sharing their delegation work with colleagues at ForestAction Nepal