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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Written statement* submitted by the International Career Support Association, 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.

[7 June 2016]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Please recycle

Gibo Resume

My name is Yasutaka Gibo a city council member of Tomigusuku city in Okinawa prefecture Japan.

Our city council passed a resolution on 22nd of December last year to demand United Nations to withdraw the recommendations submitted to Japanese government by the UN Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 4 times in past years stating that “Japanese government should acknowledge Okinawans as an indigenous people officially and need to protect .”

Similar legislation has been passed by 〇other local assemblies and the number of it and we are expecting the number would be increased.

I am here today to appeal to you to withdraw those recommendations related to the indigenous people as a citizen of the city passed the above resolution and the representative of Okinawan local assemblies who passed similar resolutions.

I came to know that several Japanese NGOs have been attending to the each committee related to the human rights. However this subject related to the indigenous people has never been discussed at any public place but this was done by hidden place mostly by non-Okinawan people.
City of Tomigusuku in Okinawa was the first place where this topic was discussed publically in last December and the result was the said resolution to revoke the recommendations.

What I want to speak out here is, we have absolutely no self-identity of indigenous people but we Okinawans are proud of being Japanese citizens.

I strongly appeal to all of you here that we citizen of Okinawa have a pride and the self-knowledge as the Japanese but we have absolutely no self-knowledge as the indigenous people

Citizens of Okinawa who came to know the existence of those recommendations from the UN committees are confused and started having distrust feeling on United Nations.

Please with draw those 4 recommendations as soon as possible.